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# MARYLAND BIRDLIFE



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MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21209

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Cover: Immature Franklin's Gull at Back River Sewage Plant, Baltimore County, Oct. 14, 1979. Photo by Ted Eubanks.

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# MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

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## STATEWIDE BIRD COUNT, MAY 6, 1978

*Chandler S. Robbins*

A chilling drizzle and light rain greeted the early risers on May 6, 1978 and persisted through most of the day. In Garrett County the weather was more like winter than spring, with snowdrifts still on the ground and a starting temperature of 34° F. Fortunately, winds were light, mostly around 5 mph, and by mid-afternoon the mercury rose to 65° in Baltimore and 51° at Oakland. Rainfall was heaviest in southern Maryland (1/2 inch) and on the lower Eastern Shore (1/3 inch), and totaled only one or two tenths of an inch elsewhere.

The rain prevented any new migrants from arriving and kept the pre-dawn counters from running up big counts of vocal transients such as thrushes. It also limited owl and goatsucker vocalizations, and probably discouraged some observers from going afield. Nevertheless, about 380 participants joined in the challenge to see what birds they could find in their favorite haunts.

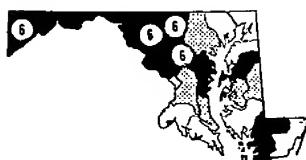
As this was the third consecutive year of rain on the day of the Statewide Bird Count, it is informative to compare some of the results for these three years. In Figures 1 and 2, 12 species have been selected for comparison. The county or counties with the highest number of birds per 10 party-hours in 1976 or 1977 is shown with this number. Any county that exceeded this number in 1978 is identified with its appropriate number. Each county in which the number of birds per 10 party-hours was at least half that of the number shown for 1976 or 1977 appears solid black; counties with one-fourth to one-half of the highest rate are shaded with dots. The shading for each species is independent of the other species. Two counties, Carroll and Cecil, were not covered in 1978; rather than leave them blank I estimated their densities as the mean of the adjacent counties.

Examining first the three permanent resident species in the top half of Figure 1, we find that Downy Woodpeckers were quite uniformly distributed across the State and were noted in higher numbers than in 1976 or 1977. Red-bellied Woodpeckers were essentially absent from the two western counties, but were about as common in Piedmont and Coastal Plain counties bordering Pennsylvania as they were in southern Maryland. Despite being near the northern limit of their range, the cold winters of 1976-77 and 1977-78 do not seem to have affected their numbers. The

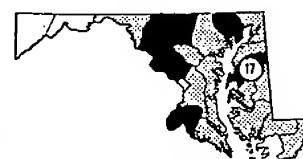
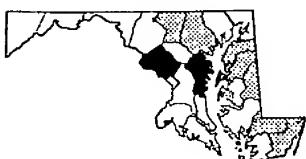
1976

1977

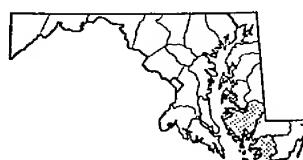
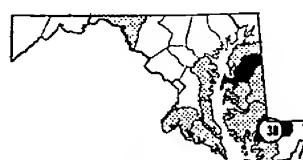
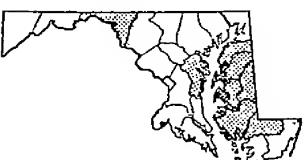
1978



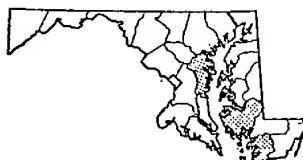
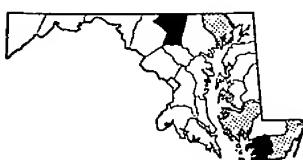
Downy Woodpecker



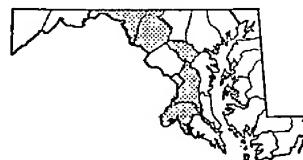
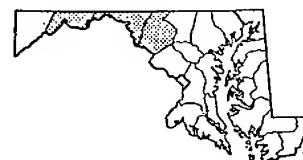
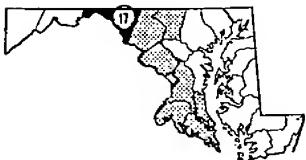
Red-bellied Woodpecker



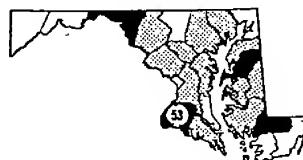
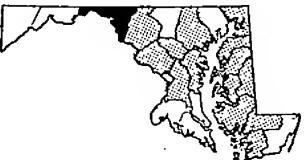
Common Bobwhite



Carolina Wren



Eastern Bluebird



Mourning Dove

Figure 1. Birds per 10 party-hours for 6 permanent resident species.  
Solid black =  $\frac{1}{2}$  of number given for 1976-77; gray =  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; white < $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Common Bobwhite survived the winter of 1976-77 very well, but populations were seriously down in May 1978.

The lower half of Figure 1 shows three other non-migratory or partially migratory species whose numbers were apparently reduced by one or both of the severe winters. Carolina Wrens were decimated by the winter weather of 1976-77, and reduced still further the next winter. Washington County seems to be a stronghold for Eastern Bluebirds, partially a result of Dan Boone's bluebird trails, no doubt. Bluebirds were depleted by the harsh winter of 1976-77, but no further reduction was apparent after the following winter. Note that the entire Eastern Shore is devoid of bluebird concentrations. Mourning Dove counts varied considerably from year to year with no particular pattern except that the two ends of the State had consistently low numbers.

Six migratory species are shown in Figure 2. Yellow-rumped Warblers were especially abundant on the 1978 count, probably a reflection of the lateness of the migration that year. Note that the high counts came from central Maryland rather than the counties where they winter so abundantly on the lower Eastern Shore. Blue Jays, which normally migrate in huge numbers at this season of the year, were held back by the rainy weather; when partial clearing began in mid-afternoon, however, Hal Wierenga picked up a flight over Sandy Point State Park that raised the county total to 85 birds per 10 hours. Cuckoo numbers in early May vary greatly from year; the best counts were limited primarily to the Coastal Plain, and none came close to the 1977 tally from Worcester County. In all three years the House Wren totals were highest in central Maryland. Southern Maryland is near the southern limit of the breeding range of this species and consistently reported low numbers. Eastern Phoebe show no conclusive evidence of having suffered from either of the two cold winters. A very high tally of Song Sparrows in Carroll County in 1977 is partly responsible for the complete absence of shading on the 1978 map for this species; one is left with the impression, however, that the winter weather of 1977-78 may have affected parts of the Maryland breeding population of this species.

The results of three different kinds of counts are compared in Figure 3. The Statewide count of May 6, 1978 is flanked on the left by birds per ten party-hours from the 1977 Christmas Count, and on the right by Breeding Bird Survey results expressed as birds per 50 3-minute stops. As in Figures 1 and 2, the highest tally is indicated with a number; shading also is similar to that in Figures 1 and 2. The Mourning Dove is the only one of the six species that is known to be partially migratory, so for the other five species the differences are the result of differences in conspicuousness at different times of the year. Bobwhites, for example, do not begin calling until after the first week in May and they successfully avoided most of the counters both at Christmas time and on the Statewide count. Mourning Doves evidently were conspicuous in flocks in mid-winter, were relatively hard to find in the rain in early May, but were readily seen and heard during fair weather in June. The Red-bellied Woodpecker maps indicate much more similarity among seasons. The Red-bellied Woodpecker and Common Bobwhite maps in Figure 3

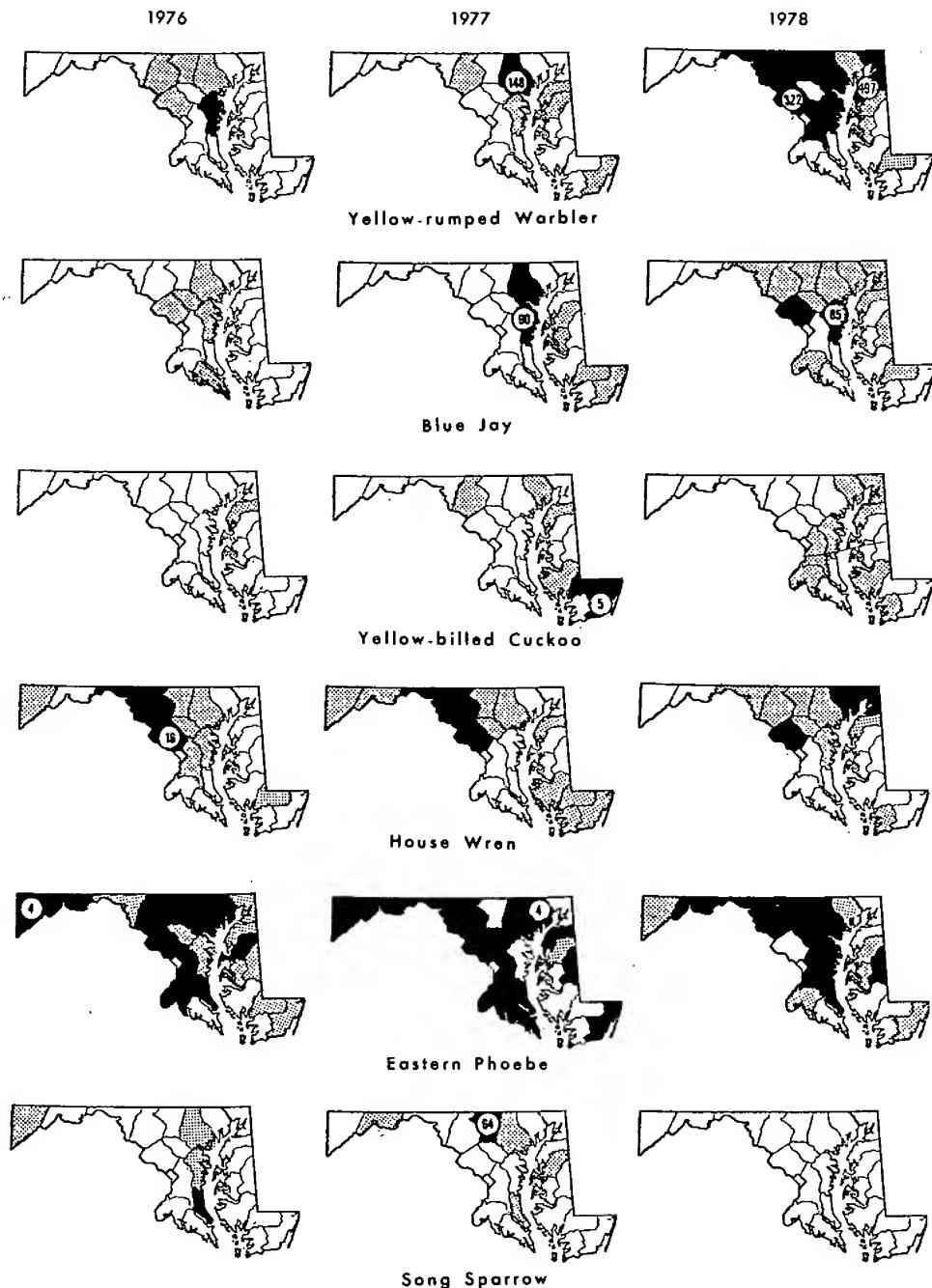
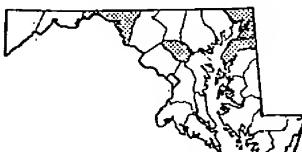


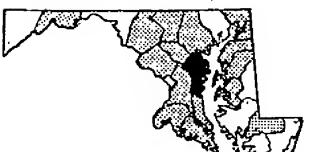
Figure 2. Birds per 10 party-hours for 6 migratory species.  
Shading as in Figure 1.

CHRISTMAS COUNT  
December 1977STATEWIDE BIRD COUNT  
May 6, 1978BREEDING BIRD SURVEY  
June 1978

Common Bobwhite



Mourning Dove



Red-bellied Woodpecker



Tufted Titmouse



Northern Mockingbird



Northern Cardinal

Figure 3. Comparison of 3 kinds of counts for 6 species. See text.

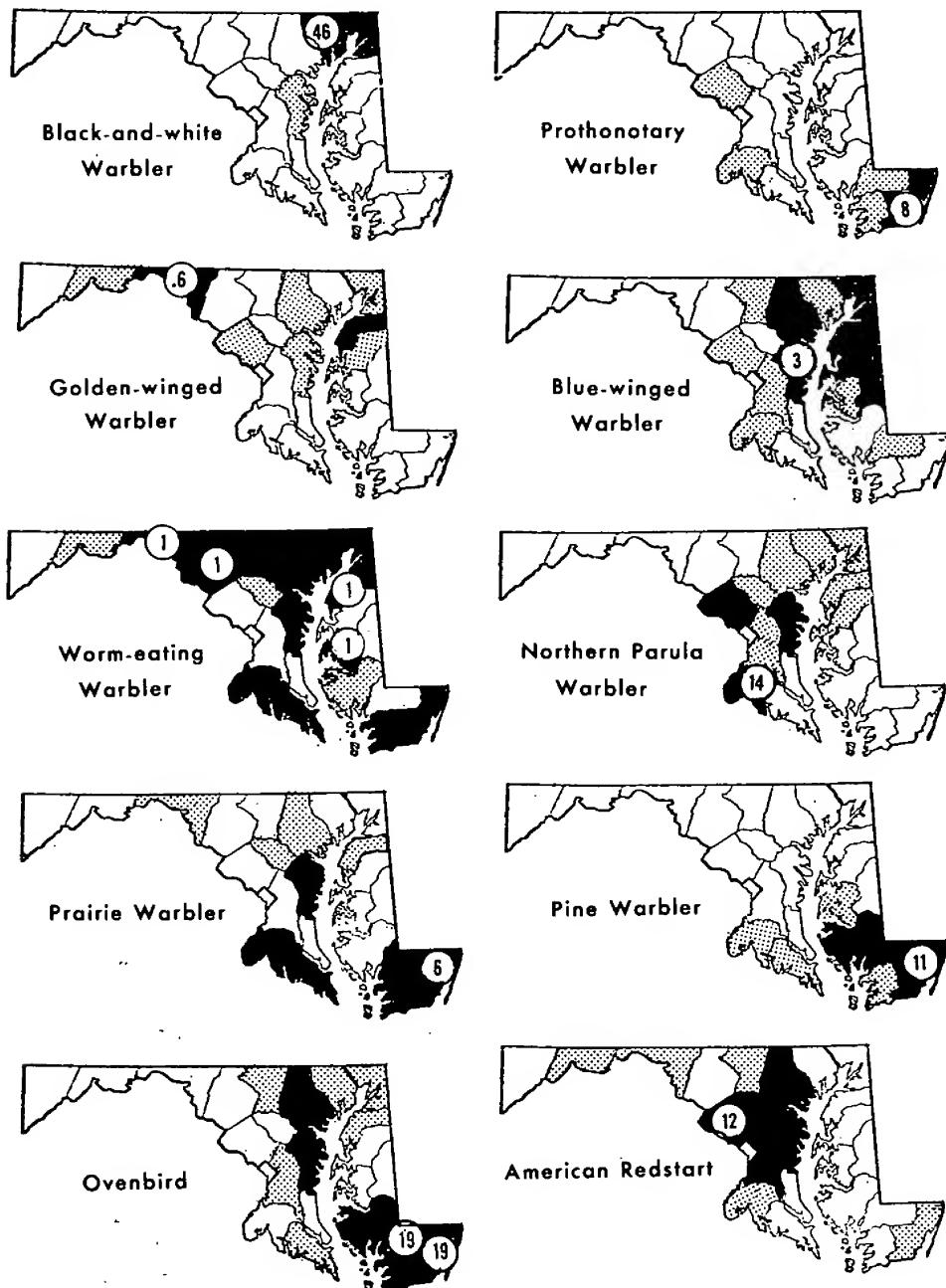


Figure 4. Birds per 10 party-hours for 10 warblers in 1978.  
Shading as in Figure 1.

are different from those in Figure 1 because they are based on different maximum densities. The Tufted Titmouse, a species of southern affinity, is most common in summer on the lower Eastern Shore and in southern Maryland, whereas in winter it was recorded in largest numbers in counties with many feeding stations. Mockingbirds were rather inconspicuous in the rain and drizzle of early May--or perhaps observers spent more of their time in the woods searching for warblers and thus undersampled mockingbird habitat. Cardinals, like titmice, showed an unexpected difference between winter and summer distribution or conspicuousness.

Where were the warblers? Figure 2 shows central Maryland flooded with Yellow-rumps. The other species were scarce by comparison. The maps in Figure 4 show comparative densities of ten warbler species, using the same symbols as in the preceding figures. A very high tally for Black-and-white Warblers in Harford County blanketed nearly all other counties right off the map. Prothonotaries, as expected, were concentrated on the lower Eastern Shore. Golden-wings, which nest only in the three, or sometimes four, western counties, were rare or absent in southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore. Blue-wings, on the other hand, have a different migration route that brings them up the Atlantic coast instead of primarily through and west of the Appalachians; Blue-wings were found primarily along the Upper Chesapeake. Worm-eating Warblers were common nowhere but were widely distributed. Northern Parulas filled a strip along and just east of the Fall Line, with the high score in Charles County. Prairies tended to favor the southern counties, and Pine Warblers showed a high correlation with distribution of loblolly pine. Ovenbirds, oddly enough, were not especially abundant in the Appalachians, but were most common in the flat country of the lower Eastern Shore. Streams along the Fall Line claimed the lion's share of American Redstarts; the only Eastern Shore county that rated shading was Worcester, where this species is a common breeding bird along the Pocomoke River.

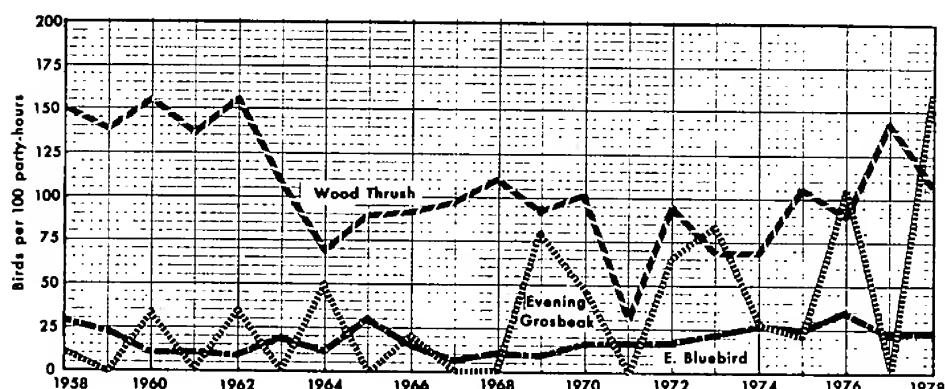


Figure 5. Birds per 10 party-hours for 3 species over 20 years of State-wide Bird Counts taken from May 1 to May 7. Shading as in Figure 1.

Some interesting comparisons might be drawn with past decades, but space permits only a small sample. Annual changes in birds observed per 100 party-hours are shown in Figure 5 for Wood Thrush, Evening Grosbeak, and Eastern Bluebird for the period 1958 through 1978. Dates of the count ranged from May 1 to May 7. From a high in the early sixties, Wood Thrushes dropped sharply in 1963 and 1964 and again in 1971, after which their counts have continued to improve. Evening Grosbeaks first appeared in small numbers in alternate years; then they became less regular but in ever increasing numbers. Eastern Bluebird counts fell to a low in 1967, from which there was gradual improvement through 1976; the severe winters that followed caused another decline.

The raw data for all species in 1978 are shown in Table 1 and the participants are listed in the Summary of Coverage. I thank Bob Ringler, Rick Blom and Doug Hackman for compiling Table 1, and I thank the observers and county compilers who came to our rescue and provided coverage data and lists of observers after the original records were accidentally destroyed.

#### SUMMARY OF COVERAGE

GARRETT COUNTY (Garr). 39 observers. 5:50 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Mildred Bender, Avis & Ben Bittinger, David & Seth Brandes, Marty Cook, Bill Devlin, Alberta Dillon, Drew Ferrier, Charlotte Folk, Lydia Geare, Phillip & Phoebe Goodwin, Harold Harman, Dotty & Dick Janney, Marilyn Johnson, Gail Kohlenburg, Annie Lichty, Dan Llewellyn, Margin McLellan, Phyl Peake, Bill Pope, Fran Pope (compiler), Mack & Betty Pusey, Elmora Schrock, Sallie Thayer, Mabel Wallace, John Willetts, Brad & Gary Yoder, Esther Yoder, John, Daisy, Sam & Rebecca Yoder, Moses Yoder, Russell Yoder.

ALLEGANY COUNTY (Alle). 45 observers. 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Helen Brake, Thelma & Don Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Mike Chonko, Nancy Dennis, Bill Devlin, Richard Douglas, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. S. Eichelberger & Rebecca, Charlotte Folk, Paul Footen, Dave Forney, Flo Giffin, Jack Gilbert, Christine Gross, Bob & Ethel Hiegel, Elyse Harmon, Ken Hodgdon (compiler), Jon Jansen, Gail Kohlenberg, Tom Mathews, Lamar & Mary Minnick, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. McKee, Dorothea, Billy & Marc Malec, Evelyn Neal, Paul Nazelrod, Jim Paulus, John and Steve Pheiffer, Harriet Sheetz, Mr. & Mrs. T. Paul Smith, Betty Swadley, Kim Titus, John Willetts, Harriett Williams and Scott, and John Workmeister.

WASHINGTON COUNTY (Wash). 25 observers in 11 parties.  
Laura Arant, Randy Anderson, Genevieve Beck, Dan Boone, Jon Boone, Mr. & Mrs. L. B. Buterbaugh, Stephanie Castle, Mary & Ross Corderman, Barbara Dowell, Mr. and Mrs. Truman Doyle, Ellen Edwards, Beulah Green, Linda Hollenberg, Carl & Jeanette Hull, Bob & Mary Keedy, Cameron & Norma Lewis (compilers), Dick Paylor, Doris Ruthrauff, Herb Taylor.

FREDERICK COUNTY (Fred). 14 obs. in 4 parties. 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Edward & Sonia Dapper, Dave Hansroth, John Helm, Howard & Phyllis Hodge, Gary Lightner, Carolyn & Ken Maize, Tom Muir, Charles Mulligan, Bill Shirey, Linda Smith, Elise Thrasher.

Table 1. State-wide Bird Count, May 6, 1978

	Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Mont	Howa	Balt	Harf	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Chas	St.M	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Wico	Somr	Worc	Total	
Common Loon	8	-	2	-	2	1	2	3	-	30	-	1	15	14	5	-	9	12	-	-	135	239	
Red-throated Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3		
Horned Grebe	-	3	-	-	1	3	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	2	1	-	-	4	22	
Pied-billed Grebe	1	3	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	12		
Northern Fulmar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	13		
Sooty Shearwater	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3		
Wilson's Storm Petrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	489	489		
Northern Gannet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73	73		
Double-cr. Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	-	3	420	1	-	-	5	241	47	75	839		
Great Blue Heron	8	1	3	2	10	2	35	4	26	36	-	79	33	56	15	18	36	36	16	39	1	456	
Green Heron	6	12	14	2	5	13	20	4	24	10	2	6	2	5	4	11	4	4	3	20	6	177	
Little Blue Heron	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	14	
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	16	-	1	13	-	37	2	16	69	81	103	165	508	
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	4	2	1	-	-	2	42	-	7	26	87	
Snowy Egret	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	2	-	2	-	2	135	-	36	34	215		
Louisiana Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	23	32		
Black-cr. Night Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	1	-	23		
Yellow-cr. Nt. Heron	-	-	-	-	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8		
Least Bittern	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	6		
American Bittern	3	4	2	-	1	-	3	1	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	1	-	29		
Glossy Ibis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	12	17		
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	18	2	13	-	1	2	38
Whistling Swan	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	14		
Canada Goose	2	-	17	6	59	33	251	3	145	14	-	1	1	288	933	26	110	171	-	9	25	2094	
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	6		
Mallard	51	20	107	26	51	108	207	5	64	47	3	14	3	117	8	41	25	48	10	40	21	1016	
American Black Duck	4	-	11	-	2	2	19	2	13	23	-	5	1	11	7	7	2	57	1	23	8	198	
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	1	6	-	50	-	70	
Common Pintail	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
Green-winged Teal	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	7	-	-	-	23		
Blue-winged Teal	12	20	14	4	10	-	37	3	35	2	-	3	-	6	2	-	13	55	-	16	15	247	
American Wigeon	3	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	30	-	45	
Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	6		
Wood Duck	22	13	41	17	76	5	63	4	64	21	-	9	-	31	-	18	2	5	-	2	6	399	
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1		
Ring-necked Duck	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	
Canvasback	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	23	
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	57	-	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	82	
Lesser Scaup	50	5	4	-	-	9	16	-	-	12	-	21	-	10	1	1	10	3	-	6	-	148	
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66	-	-	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110	
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	15	
Bufflehead	7	2	-	-	-	6	2	-	-	10	-	4	4	10	19	-	-	12	-	16	92		

June 1980

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Table 1. State-wide Bird Count, May 6, 1978 (cont.)

	Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Mont	Howa	Balt	Harf	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Chas	St.M	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Wico	Somr	Worc	Total
Oldsquaw	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	2	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	43	
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
Black Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70	
Ruddy Duck	-	2	1	-	-	-	10	-	-	2	-	-	8	26	-	-	12	8	-	-	69	
Hooded Merganser	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	11
Common Merganser	16	-	-	-	-	23	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
Red-br. Merganser	48	7	2	-	-	-	21	-	-	10	-	-	1	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	101
Turkey Vulture	7	25	77	26	51	74	56	5	12	19	-	15	10	78	41	147	21	60	35	92	26	877
Black Vulture	-	-	2	10	3	4	4	-	4	-	2	1	4	3	4	6	2	2	5	-	56	
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	5	3	-	2	2	17	-	2	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Cooper's Hawk	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Red-tailed Hawk	-	8	4	3	2	4	12	1	7	2	1	1	-	4	-	5	1	5	-	1	2	63
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	1	4	2	19	12	19	1	12	25	-	6	-	2	-	5	-	1	-	1	1	111
Broad-winged Hawk	4	12	10	1	6	12	14	-	5	2	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	72
Bald Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	5	-	1	-	11	2	2	-	26
Northern Harrier	-	5	2	-	-	3	7	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	5	1	33
Osprey	7	6	8	7	13	3	14	3	11	13	2	9	10	19	11	7	16	20	4	14	5	202
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
American Kestrel	2	7	12	7	4	6	20	5	8	11	-	2	2	3	7	14	-	3	2	2	2	119
Ruffed Grouse	11	5	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Bobwhite	-	4	11	10	20	29	48	4	27	43	5	17	5	41	20	58	21	30	10	53	10	466
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	30	15	2	18	89	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	155
Turkey	4	2	3	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
King Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	1	-	9	-	16
Clapper Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	5
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	1	9	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	17	-	7	-	59
Sora	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	-	14	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	15	1	-	-	38
Black Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Common Gallinule	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	2	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	14
American Coot	1	2	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	2	18
Am. Oystercatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Semipalmated Plover	4	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	-	5	-	-	3	-	-	-	4	8	1	-	-	30
Killdeer	20	40	50	3	7	22	38	-	9	5	-	5	1	16	6	22	3	4	2	6	8	267
Lesser Golden Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Black-bellied Plover	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	6	-	-	6	-	-	2	28	2	-	31	80	
Whimbrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Upland Sandpiper	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Greater Yellowlegs	3	-	3	11	-	2	75	16	9	13	-	14	1	37	7	44	5	74	16	25	3	358
Lesser Yellowlegs	35	7	52	53	22	-	49	7	12	123	-	5	6	18	19	2	8	25	4	2	41	490

Table 1. State-wide Bird Count, May 6, 1978 (cont.)

	Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Mont	Howa	Balt	Harf	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Chas	St.M	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Wico	Somr	Worc	Total
Solitary Sandpiper	8	21	23	8	36	25	80	5	26	40	-	-	-	5	1	3	6	1	-	3	5	296
Willet	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	31	-	24	126	185
Spotted Sandpiper	29	41	33	13	49	58	156	8	54	73	2	20	5	10	5	6	12	12	3	5	6	600
Ruddy Turnstone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	37	42
Wilson's Phalarope	2	-	3	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	11
Northern Phalarope	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Red Phalarope	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	548	548
American Woodcock	5	-	2	-	1	1	44	1	1	22	-	1	-	30	7	4	-	12	-	1	-	132
Common Snipe	2	2	27	-	1	1	38	3	25	2	-	-	2	1	-	3	9	-	12	-	12	128
Short-b. Dowitcher	-	3	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	41	54	
Red Knot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12
Sanderling	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	60	66
Semipalmated Sandp.	-	-	-	-	6	14	13	6	1	6	-	-	30	60	8	4	9	14	5	28	17	221
Western Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	12
Least Sandpiper	10	1	-	101	6	18	57	11	48	50	-	-	-	154	12	6	-	300	26	34	610	1444
White-rumped Sandp.	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	12	-	-	13	-	-	38	69
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	-	31	1	-	-	2	2	-	12	-	-	-	78	2	75	-	5	-	-	5	213
Purple Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	20
Dunlin	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	4	2	-	8	10	-	100	154	285
Pomarine Jaeger	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Parasitic Jaeger	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gr. Black-back Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	52	2	-	15	-	2	2	9	1	-	1	3	-	2	5	94
Lr. Black-back Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Herring Gull	2	250	41	-	-	-	969	2	1	702	3	7	4	185	26	-	29	100	2	136	55	2514
Ring-billed Gull	300	22	31	-	204	-	2568	87	81	807	96	422	974	1170	549	162	185	550	192	336	110	8846
Laughing Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	114	-	-	155	5	27	241	11	109	258	240	500	499	383	851	3393
Bonaparte's Gull	1	-	6	-	9	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	52
Forster's Tern	19	-	3	-	14	-	3	1	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	24	30	110
Common Tern	-	-	-	1	-	-	17	-	-	4	-	-	4	4	4	-	100	3	-	8	270	415
Little Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	8	-	-	14	-	-	20	52
Arctic Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12
Royal Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	15	10	31
Caspian Tern	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	13	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	22
Black Tern	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Black Skimmer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	60	60
Rock Dove	-	-	309	20	151	139	8804	47	373	42	5	-	6	79	176	27	41	-	10	14	10	10253
Mourning Dove	44	54	280	41	249	315	471	30	178	183	14	91	13	127	38	129	55	44	13	45	16	2430
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	-	1	-	1	2	-	2	1	5	5	-	3	-	4	1	4	2	4	-	3	1	39
Black-billed Cuckoo	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Barn Owl	2	-	-	-	1	1	5	-	1	5	-	6	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	25
Common Screech Owl	-	-	-	-	3	1	6	2	-	-	-	-	8	9	1	2	1	-	-	1	34	

Table 1. State-wide Bird Count, May 6, 1978 (cont.)

	Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Mont	Howa	Balt	Harf	Fr.G	Anne	Calv	Chas	St.M	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Wico	Somr	Worc	Total
Great Horned Owl	-	1	3	1	2	-	5	2	3	3	-	3	-	14	10	3	-	4	-	2	-	56
Barred Owl	3	1	3	4	10	6	18	1	5	7	-	3	-	1	1	5	-	-	-	-	1	69
Chuck-will's-widow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	12
Whip-poor-will	-	-	5	-	7	1	3	-	7	11	-	-	1	4	-	11	-	1	-	4	-	55
Common Nighthawk	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Chimney Swift	10	112	209	71	209	173	360	108	78	28	3	25	-	12	25	103	15	10	-	135	20	1706
Ruby-thr. Hummingb.	-	7	4	1	6	3	3	-	4	10	1	2	1	1	-	5	2	2	1	4	3	60
Belted Kingfisher	5	4	7	7	10	7	33	4	4	2	-	2	1	3	1	11	2	3	2	4	1	113
Common Flicker	24	57	101	15	44	41	181	7	20	57	1	5	1	37	9	13	22	8	6	26	12	687
Pileated Woodpecker	-	8	12	4	15	3	4	-	4	6	-	5	1	-	2	-	7	-	2	8	8	81
Red-bellied Woodpkr	-	23	40	45	106	84	125	8	43	96	6	26	2	40	24	53	15	19	4	9	14	782
Red-headed Woodpkr	5	2	2	1	8	2	4	-	-	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Yellow-bel. Sapsuckr	-	3	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	10
Hairy Woodpecker	26	5	8	3	3	10	22	2	1	20	-	8	-	6	2	8	1	3	-	1	1	130
Downy Woodpecker	59	69	60	10	51	67	117	7	40	66	1	9	1	12	8	25	14	4	8	7	14	649
Eastern Kingbird	2	7	24	12	28	24	16	1	68	11	-	8	2	12	5	29	5	40	7	19	8	328
Gt. Crested Flycatch	-	2	22	3	22	2	16	1	6	18	-	3	1	8	4	6	19	10	8	3	2	156
Eastern Phoebe	11	19	21	6	15	22	36	2	13	14	1	4	-	2	3	18	6	-	-	2	3	198
Acadian Flycatcher	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	-	2	1	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	16
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Least Flycatcher	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Eastern Pewee	1	1	-	1	1	1	2	-	2	3	-	7	2	1	-	6	-	-	2	-	-	30
Olive-sided Flycatch	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Horned Lark	5	-	6	-	-	1	7	-	1	1	-	-	5	3	19	2	8	-	3	18	79	79
Tree Swallow	169	74	197	53	594	204	1240	191	195	346	-	390	-	263	156	356	300	290	7	381	56	5462
Bank Swallow	11	-	47	26	55	29	102	-	27	135	-	7	6	30	21	41	-	39	6	13	-	595
Rough-winged Swallow	10	16	51	163	279	14	167	6	10	72	-	-	-	13	10	22	25	-	3	-	30	891
Barn Swallow	431	180	429	120	453	554	1565	87	361	527	3	95	44	502	254	272	150	450	170	1351	676	8674
Cliff Swallow	39	9	23	23	1	23	13	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	136
Purple Martin	13	-	117	11	240	72	94	4	39	51	45	73	13	33	36	149	105	19	8	200	6	1328
Blue Jay	146	132	250	123	675	521	988	44	177	745	3	117	12	109	47	181	28	37	34	20	9	4398
Northern Raven	-	-	8	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
American Crow	210	151	265	133	445	288	690	68	165	198	7	66	34	69	41	141	20	110	31	39	39	3210
Fish Crow	-	1	21	1	20	12	169	8	55	41	4	19	31	29	56	21	30	104	4	17	10	653
Black-capped Chick	194	87	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	331
Carolina Chickadee	-	-	35	11	142	170	258	24	87	104	3	38	3	34	12	69	30	9	9	21	31	1090
Tufted Titmouse	53	109	66	45	122	131	156	10	80	135	1	47	14	51	15	53	25	11	15	16	16	1171
White-br. Nuthatch	70	43	12	14	19	20	35	-	2	2	-	9	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	4	233
Red-br. Nuthatch	4	1	10	-	7	6	6	-	1	13	-	4	1	7	4	5	2	-	3	-	74	
Brown-hd. Nuthatch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	-	3	3	13
Brown Creeper	5	-	4	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
House Wren	16	13	58	19	169	54	107	18	17	50	-	1	32	9	13	1	7	2	20	1	607	

Table 1. State-wide Bird Count, May 6, 1978 (cont.)

	Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Mont	Howa	Balt	Harf	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Chas	St.M	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Wico	Somr	Worc	Total
Winter Wren	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Bewick's Wren	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Carolina Wren	-	11	15	12	38	21	55	1	9	56	2	6	6	13	9	12	9	14	3	27	17	336
Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	1	1	86	1	2	11	-	-	3	13	2	-	1	31	-	30	-	182
Sedge Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Northern Mockingbird	-	43	50	16	58	104	147	9	71	66	9	39	13	52	19	107	24	8	25	45	6	911
Gray Catbird	3	31	39	10	125	125	229	26	82	101	4	8	4	64	35	98	15	10	8	27	14	1058
Brown Thrasher	20	42	99	11	34	47	88	8	23	36	-	27	9	33	13	49	10	7	5	7	.4	572
American Robin	420	483	544	110	218	435	913	61	200	334	33	73	12	311	37	329	25	130	51	108	71	4898
Wood Thrush	6	34	88	47	109	120	274	33	70	248	4	53	2	97	29	117	29	16	12	57	38	1483
Hermit Thrush	-	-	3	-	8	6	12	3	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	1	2	-	-	3	-	43
Swainson's Thrush	-	-	-	-	2	-	6	-	2	5	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	19
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Veery	4	2	6	1	15	19	84	4	6	178	-	1	-	7	4	1	2	-	-	-	-	334
Eastern Bluebird	20	31	58	14	22	45	17	2	54	4	-	20	4	5	1	21	4	-	-	5	-	327
Blue-gray Gnatcatch	22	40	66	6	167	73	223	8	54	78	-	34	2	24	8	7	12	2	-	14	9	849
Golden-cr. Kinglet	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Ruby-crown. Kinglet	28	13	55	-	16	34	124	3	15	18	-	-	-	3	6	2	1	-	-	1	2	321
Water Pipit	-	-	12	3	-	-	60	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	30	3	18	2	-	-	-	129
Cedar Waxwing	-	-	2	-	60	-	3	-	-	14	20	25	-	1	-	-	4	-	50	5	184	
Starling	229	465	762	112	697	523	2075	88	844	507	12	129	45	412	117	450	95	150	141	447	1315	9615
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	2	2	38	32	49	7	30	91	2	31	2	36	12	24	7	16	15	42	35	473
Yellow-thrtd. Vireo	-	6	10	-	20	5	15	-	13	12	-	3	1	2	2	-	1	-	-	1	5	96
Solitary Vireo	1	-	8	1	6	8	15	-	3	5	-	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
Red-eyed Vireo	7	6	9	-	78	13	49	6	71	159	2	155	22	34	13	24	14	9	7	24	14	716
Philadelphia Vireo	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Warbling Vireo	-	1	10	-	18	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	38
Black-&white Warb	3	5	53	6	82	62	259	65	32	117	1	16	1	33	22	16	25	5	3	12	10	828
Prothonotary Warb	-	-	-	2	28	4	2	-	4	9	-	7	-	3	4	12	4	3	3	13	26	124
Worm-eating Warbler	-	3	13	4	1	4	12	1	-	7	-	4	1	5	-	2	6	1	-	4	2	70
Golden-wing Warbler	-	3	6	-	3	1	4	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Blue-winged Warbler	-	-	3	1	14	9	61	3	5	28	-	3	-	13	8	2	5	-	1	-	1	157
Tennessee Warbler	-	1	1	-	3	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	13
Orange-cr. Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nashville Warbler	1	1	4	-	1	-	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
No. Parula Warbler	1	2	1	-	118	43	102	6	46	112	1	61	1	23	15	3	12	-	3	11	11	572
Yellow Warbler	24	63	87	3	59	54	227	23	38	42	2	7	-	91	14	7	18	14	-	31	7	811
Magnolia Warbler	-	2	2	1	-	2	12	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	25
Cape May Warbler	-	1	1	-	3	-	1	1	3	1	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	16
Black-thr. Blue W	2	8	41	5	54	40	194	-	20	42	-	2	-	3	3	7	-	1	2	1	428	
Yellow-rumped Warb	2	92	853	372	4183	457	2938	76	813	1009	12	138	7	2434	196	291	250	30	50	100	45	14348
Black-thr. Green W	2	1	13	1	17	2	43	-	7	13	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	102

Table 1. State-wide Bird Count, May 6, 1978 (cont.)

	Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Mont	Howa	Balt	Harf	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Chas	St.M	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Wico	Some	Worc	Total
Cerulean Warbler	-	1	5	-	24	3	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	
Blackburnian Warb	3	28	8	-	6	1	9	1	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66	
Yellow-thrtd Warb	-	-	2	-	15	-	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	1	-	2	-	11	26	
Chestnut-sided Warb	-	4	-	-	9	3	9	3	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	
Bay-breasted Warb	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	
Blackpoll Warbler	-	1	1	-	5	-	-	-	7	4	-	3	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	1	27	
Pine Warbler	-	1	19	-	-	1	9	-	15	16	1	12	7	6	5	4	25	18	7	12	35	193
Prairie Warbler	2	3	20	-	14	18	61	2	11	46	-	17	6	11	1	4	5	3	7	16	20	267
Palm Warbler	1	-	5	-	6	6	4	-	3	2	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	34	
Ovenbird	4	6	28	1	23	53	345	12	45	114	1	17	8	30	12	19	6	21	23	62	61	881
Northern Waterthrush	1	21	12	4	29	11	17	7	8	9	-	-	-	1	2	-	3	-	-	-	1	126
La. Waterthrush	2	1	9	3	11	15	40	3	13	11	1	1	-	2	3	2	4	-	2	-	12	135
Kentucky Warbler	-	1	1	1	9	4	6	1	1	11	-	2	-	7	1	4	1	-	-	-	50	
Connecticut Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Common Yellowthroat	2	10	14	8	130	135	325	40	61	169	4	58	3	176	46	39	15	70	7	52	22	1386
Yellow-br. Chat	2	2	2	-	4	5	10	-	10	5	-	12	1	7	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	66
Hooded Warbler	-	2	-	-	1	7	11	-	9	64	2	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	110	
Wilson's Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Canada Warbler	-	2	-	-	5	2	3	-	2	3	-	-	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	22	
American Redstart	9	52	51	4	162	97	138	2	58	85	1	11	-	9	5	1	7	-	-	3	8	703
House Sparrow	128	237	871	141	130	239	514	27	165	196	29	21	62	160	42	414	75	31	100	204	310	4096
Bobolink	106	85	106	-	222	229	718	60	264	1800	260	75	-	2	6	66	80	14	-	111	3	4207
Eastern Meadowlark	148	32	87	13	38	28	32	17	29	14	5	25	10	34	15	46	22	55	2	28	36	716
Red-wing Blackbird	540	236	291	135	849	706	2563	153	219	334	27	425	72	756	193	645	110	500	136	591	465	9946
Orchard Oriole	-	3	7	5	17	3	2	2	3	6	-	9	1	4	5	10	3	10	3	5	1	99
Northern Oriole	3	49	36	12	54	13	20	-	9	7	-	10	-	4	1	9	-	5	-	1	1	234
Rusty Blackbird	73	11	11	-	11	7	16	-	20	-	-	-	33	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	184
Boat-tailed Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	184	33	231	
Common Grackle	424	458	1447	347	900	481	1026	93	460	408	70	445	128	576	351	1363	225	500	293	810	176	10981
Brown-head Cowbird	306	107	302	40	154	118	156	18	132	146	12	28	8	61	23	129	19	225	12	35	44	2075
Scarlet Tanager	4	32	28	1	31	8	48	1	28	33	-	14	1	8	1	15	8	4	8	7	13	293
Summer Tanager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	2	10	
Western Tanager	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Northern Cardinal	109	333	268	79	448	401	618	35	123	329	26	109	27	198	60	129	29	50	24	85	60	3540
Rose-br. Grosbeak	-	6	9	4	22	5	22	1	8	6	-	3	-	1	2	3	-	-	1	4	97	
Blue Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	2	1	-	1	7	4	9	5	3	2	1	3	44
Indigo Bunting	1	5	3	1	6	3	11	-	5	9	-	2	-	6	1	6	4	-	-	2	1	66
Evening Grosbeak	554	951	306	23	35	51	98	16	18	34	1	48	-	10	-	35	-	-	8	10	6	2204
Purple Finch	55	106	217	15	147	22	128	-	34	101	-	15	-	1	40	4	18	-	1	-	-	904
House Finch	28	36	57	4	22	-	32	4	10	7	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	203
Common Redpoll	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Pine Siskin	4	40	48	-	4	3	53	-	47	17	-	-	-	26	-	6	-	-	20	-	268	

Table 1. State-wide Bird Count, May 6, 1978 (cont.)

	Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Mont	Howa	Balt	Harf	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Chas	St.M	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Wico	Some	Worc	Total	
American Goldfinch	163	828	1077	163	1236	260	428	29	181	280	12	53	3	174	31	110	110	10	-	21	-	5169	
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7		
Rufous-sided Towhee	149	131	236	45	172	178	731	53	82	187	8	48	11	108	27	92	57	48	5	39	47	2454	
Savannah Sparrow	35	-	11	2	3	15	52	29	42	73	-	2	-	6	14	17	13	25	-	22	12	373	
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	3	43	-	6	8	2	4	14	3	-	2	1	2	3	2	1	-	-	4	-	98	
Henslow's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5		
Sharp-tail. Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-		
Seaside Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	-	31	3	100	
Vesper Sparrow	7	5	26	-	-	3	10	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	2	5	5	-	-	-	-	64	
Lark Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
Northern Junco	28	22	29	2	9	9	36	3	4	8	-	4	-	6	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	168	
Am. Tree Sparrow	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	
Chipping Sparrow	309	204	287	33	80	141	394	19	114	70	1	27	8	61	55	78	10	32	16	37	46	2022	
Field Sparrow	107	56	110	19	131	88	105	8	40	66	1	-	5	43	20	55	4	2	8	11	1	880	
White-cr. Sparrow	75	27	82	5	9	3	17	7	5	2	-	7	2	36	21	7	1	3	-	-	-	309	
White-thr. Sparrow	164	232	941	265	1025	1028	3572	231	451	1458	18	109	2	433	289	347	25	55	16	69	70	10800	
Fox Sparrow	9	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Swamp Sparrow	32	5	6	3	35	37	192	7	50	21	-	-	15	2	5	3	-	-	7	-	-	420	
Song Sparrow	157	127	125	62	147	152	280	19	77	97	34	20	16	39	29	43	8	8	8	42	28	1518	
Total species	129	139	165	113	162	145	200	111	152	190	58	126	103	175	133	128	128	138	84	150	155	272	
Total individuals	6844	13647	17602	42524	2229	15291	4296	11012	4824	8082	2573	3372	2542	4824	3372	6065	7791	8750	188092				
7660	3505	10397																					
Party-hours, foot	56	70	80	30	117	106	-	63	74	6	24	-	19	12	58	16	16	10	33	17			
car	41	26	28	8	13	13	-	13	13	0	19	-	30	20	25	21	5	2	9	3			
boat	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	3	12			
other	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
total	97	96	108	38	130	126	230	14	84	87	6	43	16	49	32	81	53	21	12	45	32	1400	
Party-miles, foot	28	38	55	25	94	84	-	42	58	5	18	-	211	10	21	32	2	-	19	9			
car	363	97	408	95	129	178	-	159	187	0	165	-	21	221	380	122	185	-	155	80			
boat	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	7	90				
other	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-			
total	391	135	463	120	223	278	-	214	245	6	183	-	232	231	426	239	187	-	181	179			
Birds/party-hour	71	80	126	92	135	83	185	159	98	176	139	100	161	225	151	100	64	289	212	173	273	134	
Total observers	39	45	25	14	39	40	30	3	21	21	1	11	1	13	7	36	5	2	6	13	9	381	

MONTGOMERY COUNTY (Mont). 39 observers. 4 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Maury Allison, Louise Berry, Chip Bonde, Mike Bowen, Jeremy Browne, Ellen Caswell, Robert Caswell, Evelyn Christopher, Ralph Clough, Alice Coleman, Paris Coleman, Barry Cooper, Delores Grant, Bob Hahn, Evan Hannay (compiler), Ives Hannay, Harry Hogan, Lester Holtschlag, Vince Jones, Joe Keenan, Nancy MacClintock, Stuart MacClintock, Louise Marsh, Minette McCullough, Don Mehlman, Helen Meleny, Peggy Melley, Anne Mitchell, Albert Parks, Hattie Parks, Ella Pfeiffer, Aline Pinkard, Ray Prybis, Les Roslund, Dave Weber, Diane Weber, John S. Weske, Don Widman, Jim Wilkinson.

HOWARD COUNTY (Howa). 40 obs., 29 afield, 11 at feeders. 5 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Max Casper, Eileen & John Clegg, Matthew Conron, Vince DiPasquale, Bill Eckert, Frances Ehlers, Sheila Glanz, Edith & Sarah Haviland, Mary Hall, Tim Heaps, Pat Jackson, Alice Kretz, Chris Ludwig, Sybil McKennon, Don Morris, Marjorie Mountjoy, Rosamond Munro, Frances Nahrgang, Myrtle, Dorothy, David and Beck Pardoe, Linda Parfit, Dorothy Rauth, Fred & Nan Rhinelander, Chandler & Eleanor Robbins, Evelyn & Richard Roberts, Helen Ruther, Jo Solem, Mark Wallace, Donald & Martha Waugh, Catty (compiler) & Leroy Williamson, Paul Zucker.

BALTIMORE COUNTY (Balt). About 30 observers; names lost, this list may be incomplete: Sam Ake, Wareen Beihlenberg, Rich Blom, Peggy Bohanan, Eddie Boyd, Marty Brazeau, John Cullom, Jo Ann Dreyer, Janet Ganter, Shirley Geddes, Rose Gerringher, Marion Glass, Doug Hackman, Steve Hardiman, Kathy Hunt, Hank Kaestner, Peter Knight, Jim Orgain, Patsy Perlman, Mike Resch, Bob Ringler, Doug Santoni, Steve Sapperstein, Steve Simon, Jim Stasz, Sherm Suter, Charles Swift, John Williams.

HARFORD COUNTY (Harf). 3 observers in 1 party.  
Bill Braerman, Chuck Graham, John Wortman (compiler).

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY (Pr.G). 21 observers in 14 parties.  
Danny Bystrak, Mary Janetatos, M. K. Klimkiewicz, Sam Lyon, Elwood Martin, Vivian Mendenhall, Betty & Bruce Newman, Pat & Paul Nistico, Bill & Bob (compiler) Patterson, George & Harriet Powell, Irene Ritch, Chandler & Eleanor Robbins, Mike Sorenson, Robert Whitcomb, Charles Williams, Lawrence Zeleny.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (Anne). 21 observers in 10 parties.  
V. Amoss, Danny Bystrak, C. Buchanan, A. Cochran, Deanna Dawson, Ellen Gizzarelli, S. Henderson, Debbie James, Doug & Emily Joyce, Wayne Klockner, E. Knipp, Pat Lawrence, Bill Murphy, Ben Pagac, Niles Primrose, W. J. L. Sladen, A. Smeisser, B. Tappan, R. Walton, Hal Wierenga.

CALVERT COUNTY (Calv). 1 obs. 6:40 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. John H. Fales.

CHARLES COUNTY (Chas). 11 obs. in 7 parties. 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Fred & Karen Burggraf, Vivian Dauciunas, Jose Delfine, Sue Larson, Keith Linville, Olive & Marion Sorzano, Andrew, David, & George Wilmot.

ST. MARYS COUNTY (St.M). 1 observer, V. Ray Taylor.

## KENT COUNTY (Kent). 13 observers.

Tony & Arlene Delario, Jim Gruber, Helen Gibson, Bud Hudson, Fritz Keer, Ed Mendenhall, Kay McAlpin, Robbin Newlin, Floyd Parks (compiler), Zachary Parks, Jim Terry, Pat Wilson.

QUEEN ANNES COUNTY (QuAn). 7 obs. in 2 parties. 3:55 a.m. to 7:55 p.m. Bill, Floyd, Robert & Rob Hayes, David Holmes (compiler), Clark Jeschke, Dale Milam.

## CAROLINE COUNTY (Caro). 36 observers in 27 parties.

Catherine Adams, Annabelle, Elsie, & Irene Bilbrough, Margarete Butenschoen, Elizabeth Cannon, Margaret Carter, W. R. Carter III, M. Dickey, Ethel Engle, A. J., Roberta, & Robin Fletcher, Inez Glime, Marvin & Naomi Hewitt, Alicia Knotts, Roberta Leggett, Kathleen, Kathy & Timothy McKee, Mariana Nuttle, Essie Pepper, Douglas Pyle, Mary, Elaine, & Thomas Robbins, Carol Scudder, L. T. short, Oliver Smith, Dr. Christian Snyder, Irene Stanley, Isabel Todd, Edwin & Ida Unger, Steve Westre, Irene Wheatley, David Wooters.

## TALBOT COUNTY (Talb). 5 observers in 5 parties.

Jeffrey K. Effinger (compiler), Alice Jones, Richard L. Kleen, Jan G. Reese, Jeff Wemmer.

DORCHESTER COUNTY (Dorc). 2 observers making 158 stops, midnight to 9 p.m. Henry T. Armistead (compiler), Claudia Wilds. Tide extremely high.

WICOMICO COUNTY (Wico). 6 observers. Maurice & Merian Davis, Cam Miller, Charles (compiler), Gail & Daphne Vaughn.

## SOMERSET COUNTY (Somr). 13 observers. 6 a.m. to 8:15 p.m.

Polly Batchelder, Wayne & Eric Blank, Paul Bystrak, Sam Droege, Ralph & Laura French, Mark Huff, Karl Kuydendall, Daryl McClure, Gertrude Oakman, Bob Reynolds, Martha Simpkins, Randy & Bobby Stadler, Charles Staines.

WORCESTER COUNTY (Worc). 8 observers in 2 parties, plus pelagic party. Polly Batchelder, Ralph & Laura Franch, Mark Hoffman, Bob Reynolds, Richard Rowlett, Martha Simpkins, Randy & Bobby Stadler. Party-hours and party-miles estimated in part.

7900 Brooklyn Bridge Rd., Laurel, Md. 20810





## THE SEASON

WINTER SEASON, DECEMBER 1, 1979 - FEBRUARY 29, 1980

*Robert F. Ringler*

This winter was remarkable for its lack of winter-like weather. Precipitation was so low and mostly in the form of rain that a drought could be in the offing. The average deficit for each month was 1-3/4 inches in December, 1/3 inch in January, and 1-2/3 inches in February. Temperatures were quite mild in December, averaging  $3\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  above normal for the month, producing some Christmas Counts with a slightly tropical flavor as species normally farther south at this time of year remained into the early part of winter. Snowfall for the month was negligible, even in the mountains. January was only a half degree below normal, and punctuated by snowstorms on the 4th/5th and 24th/25th which dissipated quickly. Though February averaged  $4\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  below normal, there was enough warm weather to start some early migrants. Once again, snowfall was slim and the lack of snow cover may have helped some of the permanent and marginal wintering species to survive in greater numbers.

Contributors: Terry Allen, Henry Armistead, Rick Blom, Larry Bonham, Danny Bystrak, Ric Conn, Jeff Effinger, Ethel Engle, A. J. & Roberta Fletcher, Bill & Floyd Hayes, Marvin Hewitt, Alice Jones, Alicia Knotts, Alice Mallonee, Paul Nistico, Marianna Nuttle, Jim Paulus, Fran Pope, Jan Reese, Richard Rowlett, Jo Solem, Jim Stasz, Roger Stone, Sallie Thayer, David Wallace, Steve Westre, Hal Wierenga, and Jim Wilkinson.

Grebes, Pelagics. A Red-necked Grebe in Baltimore Harbor on Feb. 17 (Blom) was probably an early northbound migrant. Evidence of the mild December temperatures, even in the mountains, were the 6 Pied-billed Grebes on Rocky Gap Lake on Dec. 30 (Paulus) and 1 on the Youghiogheny River on Dec. 27 (Thayer). Rowlett found some interesting birds offshore this season. On Dec. 3 at  $38^{\circ} 01' N$ ,  $74^{\circ} 04' W$ , approximately 55 miles east of the Maryland-Virginia line, he watched a Yellow-nosed Albatross for about ten minutes. It was either an immature or subadult. The first winter record for Sooty Shearwater in Maryland waters was one at  $38^{\circ} 04' N$ ,  $74^{\circ} 09' W$ , 52 miles east of Assateague on Dec. 6. Rowlett found Manx Shearwaters to be the most common tubenose with 4 at 55-60 miles east and southeast of Ocean City on Dec. 3, 2 in the same area on the 6th, and 2 at the Baltimore Canyon on the 30th. A bit far afield was an Audubon's Shearwater at  $38^{\circ} 17' N$ ,  $66^{\circ} 06' W$  on Dec. 13; that's 430 miles offshore. This is far out into the Gulf Stream, indicating that a few tropical birds may straggle at these latitudes through the winter in those rich waters.

The high count of Northern Gannets for the season was 442 on Dec. 3, in the vicinity of Baltimore Canyon (Rowlett).

Herons. Green Herons appeared on two Christmas Bird Counts (CBC's) on Dec. 23. One was in the Anne Arundel County portion of the Bowie circle (Wierenga) and the other at Sherwood for the St. Michaels CBC (Allen, Reese). A Great Egret at Monkton on Dec. 21 (Michael Reid) was the latest ever for the Piedmont. Another at Sherwood on Dec. 23 (Denny Quirk, Jean Snyder) was unusual on the St. Michaels count. An American Bittern was on Carroll Island in January (Blom, et al.).

Swans, Geese. Bob Warfield observed 42 Whistling Swans migrating south over Germantown on Dec. 9. Armistead estimated 300 swans and 6,500 Canada Geese on the Bohemia River on Feb. 3. Reese and Stone found about 10,000 Whistling Swans, 25,000 Canada Geese, 100 Mute Swans, and 2,000 Snow Geese in fields and on Eastern Bay in the Queenstown-Chestertown area on Feb. 13. Six Brant at Claiborne on Dec. 3 were the only ones reported on the bay. A Snow Goose in Howard County on Dec. 26 (Mark Wallace) and one at Accokeek, Dec. 28 and Jan. 20 (Nistico), were unusual.

Ducks. The late flock on Rocky Gap Lake on Dec. 30 included 170 Mallards, 40 Black Ducks, 1 Green-winged Teal, 5 Canvasbacks, 5 Ring-necked Ducks, 4 Common Goldeneyes, and 1 Ruddy Duck (Paulus). Wilbur Rittenhouse estimated 6,000 Mallards at Tuckahoe Park on Dec. 15. Common Pintails were migrating in February, with 400 at Denton on the 23rd (Westre) and 75 at Sandy Pt. the next day (Wierenga). Mark Wallace reported a female Green-winged Teal in Howard County from Dec. 13 to Jan. 21. Thayer noted 2 Wood Ducks on the Yough through January. Armistead estimated 1,050 Canvasbacks near Bellevue, Feb. 9, probably staging for the northbound flight. Among the late migrants lingering inland were 6 Common Goldeneyes at the Hunting Creek Fisheries near Catoctin Furnace on Dec. 16 (D. Wallace). Rowlett reported that 2 Common Eiders and 2 King Eiders spent the winter at Ocean City.

Diurnal Raptors. Turkey Vultures were still migrating in December, with one at Sandy Pt. on the 7th (Wierenga) and 15 flying south over Howard County the next day (Rosamond Munro). Allen and Reese counted 14 Black Vultures at Tanyard on Jan. 2. Wierenga found Red-tailed Hawks also migrating well into December, including 25 at Sandy Pt. on the 3rd. His latest were one at Rockville on Dec. 19 and one at Sandy Pt. on Christmas Day. Single Rough-legged Hawks were noted as follows: at Henderson on Dec. 15 (K. McKee), at Davis Airfield near Laytonsville, Montgomery Co., Dec. 27, and at Sandy Pt., Dec. 29-30 (both Wierenga), at Easton on Jan. 13 (Allen, Reese), and at Wye Mills, Queen Annes County, Jan. 31 (Allen). An adult Golden Eagle was at Sandy Pt. on Dec. 9 (Ted Eubanks) and another at Eastern Neck on Feb. 13 (Reese, Stone). An adult Bald Eagle was migrating past Sandy Pt. on Dec. 1 (Wierenga). One was at Denton, Dec. 15 (L. T. Short), and an immature at Tolchester Beach, Feb. 3 (Armistead). Wierenga reported 3 Northern Harriers wintering in the Claysville area of northern Montgomery County from Dec. 18 through February, and an early spring migrant was at Sandy Pt. on Feb. 24. A Merlin was reported at Claiborne on Dec. 23 (Effinger, E. Burns).

Rails. A King Rail was on Carroll Island in January (Blom, et al.). Fran Pope reports that a Virginia Rail that had been mistaken for a woodcock was shot at Mt. Nebo Wildlife Management Area in Garrett County on Dec. 3. The prize find of the season was a Yellow Rail seen on Christmas Day on Assateague by Rowlett. Reese and Stone counted 75 American Coots at Kent Narrows on Feb. 13.

Shorebirds. From some time in December through Jan. 25 an American Avocet was on the flats at Ocean City (Rowlett, et al.), the first winter record for the State. Rowlett and Chris Ludwig found a Semipalmated Plover on Assateague on Feb. 26, only the second mid-winter record in Maryland. A Greater Yellowlegs was at Martinak State Park, Dec. 15 (Westre, et al.), and a Lesser Yellowlegs at Back River, Dec. 9 (Stasz). A Willet wintered at Ocean City at least through Jan. 26 (Rowlett, et al.). Two American Woodcock were at Wittman, Talbot Co., Jan. 21 and 22 (Effinger). Paul Bystrak and Sam Droege counted 33 Common Snipe at Hillsboro, Caroline Co., on Dec. 15. One was at Tanyard from Jan. 4 to Feb. 2 (Engle) and another was at Grasonville, Feb. 13 (Reese, Stone), the latter perhaps an early migrant. Stone found a record late Pectoral Sandpiper in Talbot County on Dec. 4.

Jaegers. Rowlett saw 1 or 2 Pomarine Jaegers daily, Dec. 1-13, off the Delmarva Coast and as far out to sea as 500-600 miles. He also saw a near-adult Parasitic Jaeger chasing Bonaparte's Gulls back and forth through Ocean City inlet and West Ocean City Harbor during a northeast gale, Jan. 5. Great Skuas numbered 6 on the Baltimore Canyon CBC, Dec. 30, and Rowlett also saw 1-6 daily, Jan. 12-21, at 60-100 miles offshore.

Gulls, Terns. An immature Glaucous Gull was at Baltimore Canyon, Jan. 1<sup>4</sup> (Rowlett). An adult Iceland Gull was at the Rockville landfill, Jan. 17 (Wierenga). An immature was at Ocean City on Jan. 26 (Bonham) and Feb. 27 (Rowlett). Another Iceland Gull was seen in Curtis Bay, Feb. 17 (Blom), and an immature was at Sandy Pt. on Feb. 23 (Wierenga). A record Piedmont count for Greater Black-backed Gulls was 43 at Loch Raven, Jan. 6 (Conn.). Three Lesser Black-backed Gulls wintered in Baltimore, the most notable being the familiar bird at Ft. McHenry. Another spent the season near the Ocean Downs Racetrack east of Berlin (Rowlett, et al.). Other Lessers were reported as follows: one at Wittman, Dec. 23 (Reese, Allen, Kathy Riddle), one at Upper Marlboro, Dec. 31 (Conn.), an adult at Rockville, Jan. 17 (Wierenga), an adult on Assateague, 15 miles south of Ocean City, Jan. 26 (Rowlett, Ludwig, Steve Whitcomb), and an adult on the beach in Ocean City on Feb. 28 (Rowlett). Wierenga noted an immature Thayer's Gull at Rockville on Jan. 17. A massive fish kill near the Bay Bridge produced a large congregation of gulls in February. Reese and Allen estimated 5,000 Ring-billed Gulls between Sandy Pt. and Love Pt. on the 14th, and 10,000 on the 19th. Wierenga estimated 10,000-15,000 on the 23rd. An immature Black-headed Gull was in Curtis Bay from Feb. 18 through the end of the month (Blom, Bystrak, Stasz, Ringler, et al.) and another immature was at Ocean City, Feb. 28 (Rowlett). On Jan. 18, Ludwig saw a Laughing Gull at Annapolis, where they are rare in mid-winter. Few Bonaparte's Gulls wintered in the bay region, with the only odd report being one at Montgomery Village in

northern Montgomery County, Jan. 29 (Wierenga). Perhaps this was because about 15,000 stayed in the Ocean City area. Rowlett occasionally found them massed on the flats, but more often they were scattered in rafts beyond the surf from Ocean City to Cape Henlopen, Delaware, or feeding in huge flocks at the inlets at Ocean City and Indian River. Mixed in these flocks were up to 14 Little Gulls to reward the diligent observers (Rowlett, et al.). Rowlett's high count of Black-legged Kittiwakes was 515 on Jan. 14, 60-70 miles east of Ocean City. Most of the birds were flying north, and Rich noted a sharp decline in numbers for the remainder of the season. Two Forster's Terns at Ocean City on Jan. 27 (Bonham) were the only ones reported.

Owls, Woodpecker. Three Long-eared Owls spent the winter at Piney Run Park, Carroll Co. (Blom, et al.) and 4 wintered on Assateague (Rowlett, et al.). Another was at Gude's Nursery in Rockville to Jan. 24 (Wierenga). A Short-eared Owl was at Masonville in Baltimore City on Jan. 6 (Peter Knight, et al.), and 3 were at Bolling Air Force Base on Jan. 26 (Wierenga), probably since late December. A Saw-whet Owl was at Gude's from early January into March (Wierenga, et al.) and Hal noted another at the National Arboretum from Jan. 15 to Feb. 18. One was on Assateague at least from Dec. 27 (Effinger, Denny Quirk) through Feb. 3 (Rowlett). Rich also saw one flying around his ship 100 miles east-northeast of Ocean City on Dec. 2! A Pileated Woodpecker was seen at Greensboro on Feb. 15 (W. Steward).

Flycatchers, Nuthatches, Catbirds. A Western Kingbird was seen on the Annapolis CBC, Dec. 30, and the next day also (Dave Badger, et al.). Eastern Phoebes were seen at Piscataway, Dec. 16 (Nistico), at Loch Raven into January (Charles Swift, Paul Noell), and at Denton, Feb. 5 (Roberta Fletcher). Wilkinson found 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches at Herrington Manor in Garrett County, where few were seen this winter. A Gray Catbird was at Denton, Dec. 31 (Knotts), and one was at Loch Raven, Jan. 6 (Conn.).

Robins, Pipits, Shrikes. Armistead estimated 75 American Robins near Bellevue, Feb. 9, which may have been migrants, but from which direction had they come during that cold spell? Effinger found 100 Water Pipits on Tilghman Island, Jan. 13, and 400-500 at Bozman, Feb. 14. Another 500 were at Denton, Jan. 28-29 (Fletchers). An immature Northern Shrike was reported from Assateague Island, 10 miles south of Ocean City on Feb. 2 (*fide* Rowlett). A Loggerhead Shrike was at Greensboro, Dec. 15 (Hewitt) and another at Denton, Jan. 28 (Jerry Fletcher). Wierenga saw one 5 miles northwest of Olney, Montgomery Co., on three dates in January.

Warblers. The mild weather during the early part of the winter produced some astounding records from this family. Wierenga found a Tennessee Warbler and an Ovenbird at Gude's Nursery on Jan. 2! An Orange-crowned Warbler was seen at West Ocean City on Dec. 27 (Effinger, Quirk), and another near Back River on Dec. 31 (Knight). David Wallace discovered an immature Cape May Warbler at Baker Park in Frederick on Dec. 22. Wierenga saw a Pine Warbler at a feeder north of Annapolis on Feb. 6, and one was singing at Grasonville seven days later (Reese, Stone). Blom

found a Palm Warbler in Baltimore on Dec. 8, and Ludwig sighted one in Columbia on Jan. 20. Rowlett found a Northern Waterthrush on Assateague on Christmas Day. Two to 4 Common Yellowthroats were at Sandy Pt. through January (Wierenga); 1 was at Masonville in Baltimore into February (Stasz), and 1 was at Martinak State Park, Dec. 15 (Westre, et al.). Male Wilson's Warblers were seen at feeders in Harwood, Anne Arundel Co., Dec. 20 (Wendell and Lee Phillips), and in Columbia, Jan. 5 (Sheila and Jonathan Glanz). Nistico reported an American Redstart at Piscataway on Dec. 16.

Orioles, Finches. As usual, a few "Baltimore" Orioles visited feeders this winter. Two were seen at different feeders in Baltimore. One was in Columbia on Jan. 7 (Sheila Glanz), and another in Talbot County, Jan. 12-13 (Sally Jamison). Paul Noell saw a Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Loch Raven in early January. Dickcissels were reported at three feeders in Baltimore from Feb. 1 on (Steve Sapperstein, Jeanne Woods, et al.). Another was at Joe Byrnes' feeder in Columbia, Dec. 24-26, a nice Christmas present. Wilkinson estimated 50 Evening Grosbeaks near Herrington Manor in Garrett County on Jan. 19. Fran Pope noted at least 25 House Finches coming to her feeder in Mountain Lake Park from Jan. 4 on, and in Caroline County 30-50 wintered at Tanyard (Engle) and 20 at Greensboro (Hewitt). An albino House Finch was present at a feeder near Clarksville, Howard Co., from the fall (Pat Shepherd). Mark Wallace saw the bird on Jan. 28. There was a report of a similar bird on the west side of Columbia (*fide* Jo Solem). Alice Mallonee noted 2 Rufous-sided Towhees wintering at her farm near Williamsport, Washington Co.

Sparrows, Longspurs, Buntings. A Savannah Sparrow at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center near Laurel on Feb. 29 (Blom, Bystrak) may have been an exceptionally early migrant. Wierenga saw 1 to 5 Vesper Sparrows at Claysville, Montgomery Co., Dec. 18 to Jan. 2. An "Oregon" Junco was at Denton, Jan. 9 through the end of February (Fletchers). Effinger noted 12 Chipping Sparrows at his feeder in Talbot County from Dec. 24 through the end of the period, and Terry Allen had 1 at his feeder on Jan. 19. Danny Bystrak and Elaine Lowry found the Clay-colored Sparrow on the Annapolis CBC and presented an excellent description of the bird. A Lincoln's Sparrow was at Back River, Dec. 4 (Stasz). Wierenga found single Lapland Longspurs at Sandy Pt. on Dec. 1 and Gaithersburg on Jan. 10. The approximately 15 that Blom and Bystrak discovered at the Summit Hall Turf Farm on River Road west of Seneca on Feb. 29 were probably northbound migrants. Snow Buntings were reported as follows: 120 at Ridgely on Dec. 15 (Westre, et al.), 1 in Talbot County on Dec. 9 (Effinger), 5 on Tilghman from Dec. 23 for about a month (many observers), 2 at Sandy Pt. on Dec. 30 (Barry Cooper), and 5 on Hart Island, Baltimore Co., Dec. 31 (Ringler, John Barber), plus a warm specimen that had been recently shot by a duck hunter.

3501 Melody Lane, Baltimore 21207



## MOS CONVENTION, 1980

The 1980 convention is now history, leaving pleasant memories for the 223 attendees. Birders began arriving at the Fenwick Inn early on Friday, May 9, and were anxious to get on with the birding for which they had come. Early arrivals were studying the 46 scheduled trips on their programs, and signing the announcement sheets before they could be posted.

There were Friday night field trips, but late arrivals and those wanting to turn in early had only to wander to the back of the hotel and hear the Chuck-will's-widow to put them in a birding mood for the next day's activities.

Saturday began early with coffee and doughnuts at 4:15 a.m. for those going to the Pocomoke Swamp for the "dawn chorus" or to West Ocean City for rails, "chucks", and herons. The Fenwick served a hearty breakfast for all at 6 a.m. and the birders left the hotel deserted until lunch time. Those going to Wallops Island, Chincoteague Wildlife Refuge or Irish Grove Sanctuary took box lunches for the all-day trips. The half-day trips included a popular canoe trip at Shad Landing.

The annual meeting was held Saturday evening after a buffet supper; the various committee reports follow. The field trip leaders reported highlights of their individual trips. Birders on the morning trips had excellent luck with warblers and especially, a good look at the Swainson's Warbler. Happy winners of the Lee LeBlanc prints contributed by Eleanor Robbins were Gladys Cole and Helen Ostrander; sale of the raffle tickets added \$86.00 to the Sanctuary Fund.

On Sunday morning about half the number had early morning coffee as on the previous day! The Sunday field trips ended at noon except for a final "goodie trip" Sunday afternoon for the rarities of the Convention. Chan Robbins conducted the official tally at noon. Unfortunately many attendees had left, missing the tally and a good afternoon trip. The final count was 193 species, including 25 warbler species. Bob Ringler reported his group had seen three King Eiders at the jetty and that instantly became the subject for the "goodie trip." Everyone who went had excellent views of the eiders both on short flights and in the choppy waters just off shore.

The 223 registrants included representatives from every chapter and a welcome birder from England on his first U.S. birding tour. Several non-MOS members inquired concerning membership and appropriate chapter representatives were located to assist. A survey of the individual chapter sign-in sheets showed Washington, Frederick, Anne Arundel, and Patuxent had the best representation with each chapter having more than 20% of its membership present. At the other end of the scale, Howard, Kent, and Wicomico chapters had less than 10% of their membership present. Plans for the 1981 Convention are already underway with the goal of increasing the number of participants. The emphasis will be on super birding, excellent leadership, and good food and fellowship at an affordable price for everyone.

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The 33rd annual meeting of the Maryland Ornithological Society convened at 7:20 p.m. on May 10, 1980 at the Fenwick Inn, Ocean City. A quorum was on hand.

President James W. Cheevers extended a warm welcome to all members and guests. Cited for traveling the greatest distance to attend our convention was Robin Borwick of London, England. Mr. Cheevers commended Martha Chestem for her efforts in arranging this successful gathering.

Following a motion by Mrs. Joyce, duly seconded, the Minutes of the last annual meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report. Mr. MacGregor presented his report for the MOS fiscal year May 1, 1979 through April 30, 1980. His complete report is printed in this issue of *Maryland Birdlife*. The Treasurer explained that this year's figures compare most favorably with those of last year, primarily because our income was larger than anticipated, whereas expenditures did not reach the level planned. The Sanctuary Fund benefited considerably by \$4,354 received as a result of our special fund drive, plus over \$1,000 earned by Danny Bystrak at a recent birdathon. Mr. MacGregor expects that next year's expenses will be more sizeable; an additional scholarship will be funded, and greater emphasis placed on sanctuary maintenance. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was introduced by Mr. Vaughn, seconded and approved.

Membership. At the close of the MOS year, total membership stands at 1987, divided as follows: Allegany, 73; Anne Arundel, 107; Baltimore, 666; Caroline, 42; Carroll, 11; Frederick, 72; Harford, 123; Howard, 122; Kent, 77; Montgomery, 260; Patuxent, 75; Talbot, 132; Washington, 85; Wicomico, 59; Members-at-large, 61; *Maryland Birdlife* subscribers, 22. In this past year, we welcomed our new Carroll Chapter and regretfully accepted the dissolution of the Dorchester Chapter.

Committee Reports. The members were briefed on last year's achievements and future plans of the Bluebird Project and Bylaws, Conservation, Convention, Education, Library, Long Range Planning, Publications, Research, Sanctuary and Scholarship Committees. These reports are printed in their entireties in this issue of *Maryland Birdlife*. The report of the Budget Committee was deferred until the Board of Directors' meeting to follow.

Hampe Award. At their last meeting the Board of Directors voted to make Irving "Duke" Hampe, first president of the Society, an honorary life member. A certificate has been prepared, to be presented at a meeting of the Baltimore Chapter.

Bookstore. One member questioned when MOS shoulder patches would again be available in our Bookstore. It was suggested that a new supplier might be able to furnish these in adequate quantities for our use. Mr. Robert Lyon was praised for his superior management of the Bookstore.

Election of Officers. The following were nominated to serve as officers of the Society for the forthcoming year: President, Mr. John Cullom; First Vice President, Miss Martha Chesten; Second Vice President, Dr. Benjamin F. Poscover; Treasurer, Mr. W. Gordon MacGregor, and Secretary, Mrs. Helen Ford. A motion was presented by Mrs. Meinersmann, seconded and approved, instructing the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of these officers.

Election of Directors. The Secretary read names of those nominated by the chapters to serve on the Board of Directors for the next year (\* denotes chapter president): Allegany, \*Mrs. Dorothea Malec, Mr. Robert Hiegel; Anne Arundel, \*Mr. James W. Cheevers, Miss Dorothy Mumford, Mr. Tad Eareckson; Baltimore, \*Mrs. Daniel B. Wheeler, Mrs. C. Lockard Conley, Mrs. Raymond Geddes, Jr., Dr. Roger Herriott, Mrs. Martin G. Larrabee, Dr. Philip Creighton, Mr. Frank J. Bien, Dr. Alan Ross; Caroline, \*Mr. Oliver Smith, Mr. V. Edwin Unger; Carroll, \*Mrs. Geraldine Newton, Mr. William Ellis; Frederick, \*Mr. John Helm III, Mr. Kennedy Maize; Harford, \*Mr. Ellis Porter, Miss Roenna Fahrney, Mr. Eldred Johnson; Howard, \*Mr. Michael McClure, Mrs. Eileen S. McCormack-Clegg; Kent, \*Mr. Joseph Blair, Mr. Floyd Parks; Montgomery, \*Dr. Frank G. Witebsky, Mr. Philip A. Du-Mont, Miss M. Kathleen Klimkiewicz, Mrs. Margaret Donnald; Patuxent, \*Mr. Samuel Droege, Dr. Lawrence Zeleny; Talbot, \*Mrs. David S. Spain, Mr. G. Curtis Engel, Dr. Robert Trever; Washington, \*Mr. Cameron Lewis, Mr. Truman Doyle; Wicomico, \*Mr. Hugh Hanson, Mr. Karl Zickrick. Following a motion by Mrs. Thurmond, duly seconded, the members approved these nominees.

Acknowledgments. Outgoing President Cheevers thanked his fellow officers, committee chairmen, the chapter presidents, members of the Board of Directors, and all members of the Society for their assistance during his tenure of office. It was announced that Mrs. Ford is resigning as executive secretary. The members gave a rising vote of thanks to both Mr. Cheevers and Mrs. Ford for their services to the Society.

A motion to adjourn was received and passed at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, *Helen M. Ford*, Secretary

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## COMMITTEE AND PROJECT REPORTS

### MOS BLUEBIRD PROJECT

Eastern Bluebirds have had a particularly rough time in recent years. The winters of '77 and '78 were among the most severe in history throughout much of the winter range of the species. Surveys indicated that large numbers of bluebirds probably perished in a broad east-west corridor through the middle latitudes of the country, representing the northern part of the bluebird's winter range. This included Maryland. Conditions were at their worst in the midwest where bluebirds disappeared almost completely from some previously productive bluebird trails.

The winter of '79 was considerably better but still rather severe. Freezing rains, which are often more destructive to bluebirds than low temperatures, occurred in many localities. Even so, surveys indicated a modest recovery in bluebird population from the two previous catastrophic years.

The winter of '80 was relatively mild in spite of unusually heavy snows in late winter and early spring in some regions. It is too soon (early May) to judge how the bluebird population compares with that of a year ago, but good reports are being received.

The MOS bluebird project has become well integrated with the new North American Bluebird Society, whose primary aim is to promote bluebird conservation throughout the continent. This effort was recently aided enormously by Joan Rattner Heilman's bluebird article in the November 25, 1979 issue of Parade magazine. As a result of this article more than 75,000 letters have been received requesting information on how to help the bluebirds. Without any paid staff the task of handling this mammoth volume of mail seemed insurmountable. Great credit is due to Mary Janetatos, MOS member and Executive Director of NABS, for resolving the problem by quickly soliciting the help of nearly 100 volunteers, including many MOS members, who donated thousands of man-hours of work.

Fortunately the Parade article requested a stamped addressed envelope and 25 cents to cover costs. Chuck Dupree, MOS member and NABS Treasurer was faced with the arduous task of counting and banking more than \$18,000 in quarters and other small change. Even now, more than five months after the appearance of the Parade article, letters are still being received at the rate of about 1.00 per week. As a further result of this publicity orders were received and filled for more than 10,000 bluebird nesting boxes.

The bluebird message has now reached millions of people throughout the country through Parade and other publications. It is most gratifying to know that so many of these people would take the time and effort -- and money -- to learn more about how they can become personally involved in helping the beautiful but deeply troubled bluebirds survive in an increasingly hostile environment. Public concern for the welfare of our wildlife appears to be greater than at any time in the past.

Larry Zeleny, Chairman

#### BYLAWS COMMITTEE

The Bylaws Committee has completed an entire revision of the current Bylaws and has submitted them to the Executive Board. A manual, dependent upon the Bylaws, cannot be completed until the Bylaws are accepted. This manual will contain more than the rules of operation. It will also give MOS historical data and information designed to help incoming Board members.

As there was a lack of knowledge about current Bylaws, the Executive Board tabled the motion to accept the new ones until all members of the Board had studied the old Bylaws and could make comparisons. This is the status now.

One member of the committee is not in favor of the proposed Bylaws, in entirety.

Lee Meinersmann

#### CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

MOS people are not traditionally political activists; we would much rather spend our time watching birds and enjoying wilderness than monitoring bills in the state legislature or writing letters to our senators. However, if we who profess to care about these things are not willing to take an active part in their defense, we can hardly expect that road builders and power companies will defend them for us. Human capability for environmental change is so enormous and generally so mis-directed that our best efforts are required if any of the wild places we love, and the creatures who live there, are to survive--to say nothing of ourselves. It is unfortunate that many major environmental decisions are made on the basis of political considerations rather than common sense, so we are required to become political animals to some extent, even though we would rather be birding.

The following outline touches briefly on some conservation issues to which we should all be alert, whether or not there is specific action to be taken now.

On the international level, acid rain and snow are a threat whose dangers are only beginning to be appreciated and whose destructive effects will increase for many years, even if all use of sulphur-containing fossil fuels were to end this minute. Until now the effects have been observed chiefly in fresh water lakes and streams, but if and when precipitation becomes so acid that it exceeds the tolerance of land plant communities, the effects could be abrupt and disastrous.

The destruction of the rain forest of the Amazon basin is another critical environmental issue. At current rates, more than half of the forest cover of northern South America will be gone within twenty years, with completely unknown consequences to world climate patterns, certain destruction of thousands of species of plants and animals, and elimination of winter habitat of several North American migrant songbirds.

A third piece of madness, so far only contemplated, is a second Panama Canal. The proposed sea-level passage would permit the cold waters of the Pacific, where the tides are higher and stronger, to flood into the Caribbean Sea, with unknown but potentially major effects on marine life and on the weather of the central United States and Canada.

Two major national issues in the year ahead are land designation in Alaska, and barrier island legislation. Senator Byrd has promised that Senate debate on Alaska will begin on July 21, so it is possible that definitive action will be taken by this session of Congress. A package of five amendments to the Senate Energy Committee bill, which would restore vital protection to the Wrangell Range, Yukon Flats, Admiralty Islands, Gates of the Arctic, and Misty Fjords area, is the goal of conservationists.

The U.S. House of Representatives is considering a bill, HR 5981, that would promote acquisition by the federal government of most of the undeveloped land on barrier islands on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, in recognition of the impracticality of development of these fragile and constantly changing areas. Maryland representatives Michael Barnes and Clarence Long are among the co-sponsors of this bill. It would be good for MOS members to urge their representatives to support this wise legislation.

At the state level, the results of the recently concluded session of the legislature have not been very encouraging. Conservationists will be watching dubiously the results of the reorganization that transferred responsibility for many environmental programs from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Mandatory deposit legislation (the so-called "bottle bill") did not pass, but it did come out of committee with a favorable report, and its proponents--the MOS among them--are already regrouping for next year's session under the slogan "We shall return!" I am happy to report the death of two bills, one that would have permitted the use of tree-mounted blinds along the borders of Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, and a second that would have promoted private development of golf courses, resort complexes, and similar enterprises, within Maryland state park lands.

*Anneke Davis, Chairman*

#### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The following activities were carried out by the Education Committee during the 1979-80 program year.

Every year the Listers Trip seems to get better. The leaders seem to find event after event to excite those who attend, who enjoy the company of their fellows, and list over 150 species.

I believe our Program Exchange helps the programs of our Chapters get more exciting every year.

Manuel Landau of Montgomery Chapter was this year's recipient of the Outstanding Achievement in Ornithology Award. He was nominated by that Chapter and sponsored by Margaret Donnald of Adventure Sanctuary. He certainly exemplified all of the qualities one would ascribe to a winner of this award. Joy Wheeler and Ben and Ruth Poscover made the presentation for the Committee at a regular meeting of the Chapter.

For the Get-Acquainted-With-An-MOS-Sanctuary program, Joy Wheeler and Chan Robbins of the Education Committee and several guests visited Carey Run Sanctuary for a most rewarding weekend experience. They were hosted by Dan and Charlotte Folk, Chairmen of the Carey Run Sanctuary Committee. Aside from exceptional birding, one highlight was a demonstration of the bee keeper's art by Dan.

An MOS/MAST Weekend was initiated this year by the Education Committee and the Maryland Association of Science Teachers. It was held at Irish Grove Sanctuary with 15 teachers in attendance.

An MOS trip was planned to the southwestern United States but unfortunately not enough people signed up and it was cancelled.

A Speakers List should be available to the chapters this fall.

Activities planned by the Committee for 1980-81 include Listers Trip, October 11, 12 and 13; MOS/MAST Weekend, October 31, November 1 and 2; Program Exchange; Outstanding Achievement in Ornithology Award; and Speakers List.

*Benjamin F. Poscover, Chairman*

#### LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Library Committee has continued to maintain the collection of journals received at Cylburn in exchange for *Maryland Birdlife*. They get almost no use, but are there and could provide an opportunity for research and delightful reading about birding around the country, the world even, if you are ever at Cylburn on a rainy day.

The surplus copies of *Maryland Birdlife* have become a problem again. For the last 5 years they have been stored at Martha Schaffer's house which is now being sold. We are making an inventory of them and considering the feasibility of putting some of them on sale through the Bookstore. We would appreciate hearing from the membership about whether there would be a market for these to update collections, fill in vacancies, provide historical background for new members.

The project of arranging our book collection into a published bibliography is closer to its goal. Mrs. Pat Diestel of Baltimore Chapter MOS fulfilled a requirement for Steve Simon's Catonsville Community College Ornithology course by listing in bibliography form all the books the MOS has at Cylburn and the Sanctuary houses.

We continue to receive publisher's copies of new books for review. Copies of the reviews in *Maryland Birdlife* have been sent to the publishers.

*Joy Wheeler, Chairman*

#### LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Long Range Planning Committee continues to work with the Sanctuary Committee to develop a master plan for the MOS sanctuaries. A master plan survey is being prepared for tum Suden similar to that employed by the Nature Conservancy. After experience from the first sanctuary is gained from this survey, it will be repeated for each sanctuary. An abbreviated survey form has been given to each individual sanctuary chairman in an effort to start developing a statistical basis for comparison. Five sanctuaries have responded. This effort will continue next year.

*John Cullom, Chairman*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER  
MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 1980

OPERATING FUND

Fund Balance, April 30, 1979	\$ 9,915.98
Correction of prior year error, transfer from other funds	793.75
Corrected Fund Balance, April 30, 1979	10,709.73
<b>Receipts:</b>	
Dues remitted by chapters	\$ 7,284.50
Convention income	661.00
Interest on savings accounts	1,795.33
Sale of Field Lists, Birdlife, Subscriptions, Advertising	570.13
Reimbursements received for Mailing Permit and Printing	<u>52.50</u>
	<u>10,363.46</u>
	<u>21,073.19</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>	
MARYLAND BIRDLIFE, printing and mailing	1,644.21
Convention Program	90.00
Executive Secretary Stipend	2,900.00
Administrative and Office Expenses	747.68
Affiliation Fee, National Audubon	50.00
Research Grants	500.00
Typewriter and Attachments	972.00
Various Memberships	50.00
Preservation of Assateague	50.00
Reprints	78.75
Education Committee Awards	<u>57.40</u>
	<u>7,140.04</u>
Fund balance, April 30, 1980	\$ 13,933.15

SANCTUARY FUND

Fund Balance, April 30, 1979	\$ 12,002.05
Correction of prior period error, transfer to other funds	1,325.58
	<u>10,676.47</u>
<b>Receipts:</b>	
Contributions Received	7,251.98
Interest and Dividends, Sanct. Endowment Fund	1,499.27
Miscellaneous	<u>420.15</u>
	<u>9,171.40</u>
Interest on Anne Arundel Chap. Restricted Gift	<u>489.70</u>
	<u>9,661.10</u>
	<u>20,337.57</u>

**Expenditures:**

Property Tax	652.59
Insurance	1,562.00
Repairs, Tum Suden \$715, Irish Grove \$300	1,015.00
Utilities	894.28
Signs	498.58
Grass Cutting	300.00
Miscellaneous	<u>49.96</u>
	<u>4,972.41</u>

Fund balance, April 30, 1980

\$ 15,365.16\*

\*Beginning and ending balances include Anne Arundel Chapter restricted gift in the amount of \$5,472.45.

SANCTUARY ENDOWMENT FUND

Fund Balance, April 30, 1979	\$ 30,788.17
Correction of prior year error, transfer from other funds	<u>531.83</u>
Corrected Fund Balance, April 30, 1979 ands April 30, 1980	<u>31,320.00</u>

HELEN MILLER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Fund Balance, April 30, 1979	\$ 12,505.35
Receipts:	
Contributions Received	\$ 2,292.28
Interest	<u>858.88</u>
	<u>3,151.16</u>
	<u>15,656.51</u>

## Expenditures:

Scholarships	<u>1,460.00</u>
Fund Balance, April 30, 1980	\$ 14,196.51

## Reconciliation of Accounts at End of Fiscal Year

## Fund Balances, April 30, 1980:

Operating Fund	13,933.15
Helen Miller Scholarship Endowment Fund	14,196.51
Sanctuary Fund	15,365.16
Sanctuary Endowment Fund	<u>31,320.00</u>
	\$ 74,814.82

## Fund Assets, April 30, 1980:

Receivable: Research Grant returned in May 1981	250.00
Checking Account, Maryland National Bank	752.84
Savings Account (Pooled Funds), Loyola Federal	3,785.59
Cert. of Deposit, Loyola Federal (7.500%)	5,475.38
Cert. of Deposit, Loyola Federal (11.780%)	15,847.55
Dayton Power & Light Bonds (8.000%)	3,012.67*
Virginia Electric Power Bond (8.625%)	3,992.04*
Cert. of Deposit, Loyola Federal (7.750%)	3,500.00*
Cert. of Deposit, Loyola Federal (7.750%)	6,820.00**
T. Rowe Price Growth Fund	9,500.00**
General Telephone South East Bond (7.750%)	5,129.92**
Niagara Mohawk Power Bond (7.375%)	4,983.15**
Ohio Bell Telephone Bond (7.875%)	4,987.81**
Cert. of Deposit, Loyola Federal (7.500%)	<u>6,777.87***</u>
	74,814.82

\*Helen Miller Endowment Securities, at cost

\*\*Sanctuary Fund Securities, at cost

\*\*\*Special Anne Arundel Chapter Sanctuary Fund with restricted principal of \$5,472.45, at cost plus accrued interest.

## AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT

I have examined the financial records of the Maryland Ornithological Society for the year April 30, 1979 through April 30, 1980. In my opinion the aforementioned records accurately present the financial position of the Society.

(Signed) Rodney B. Jones, Chairman

### RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Four proposals were received for 1980 research grants; these being:

1. Habitat-Niche Discrimination of Avian Species Utilizing Nest Boxes.
2. Analysis of the Use of the Vee formation by Canada Geese.
3. Habitat Structure Around Nests of Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*).
4. Intensive Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) banding project on the Patuxent River and the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

The first three proposals were approved for \$250 each.

Proposal one was submitted by W. J. Devlin and G. R. Willner and is to use discriminant function analysis to discriminate among nest sites used by Eastern Bluebird, Tree Swallow, House Wren, and House Sparrow. Devlin and Willner hope the outcome of their work will allow them "to make recommendations concerning placement and construction of Bluebird nest boxes which will reduce competition with the intended species."

Proposal two was submitted by Mr. John Badgerow. He is working on a Ph.D. thesis at Syracuse University. Mr. Badgerow is doing observations to test the aerodynamic theories of the advantage to birds of formation flying.

Proposal three was submitted by Miss Dawn Otello, who is doing research for a Masters Degree at the University of Massachusetts. Miss Otello's work is very similar to that proposed by Devlin and Willner.

The Committee was glad to receive two proposals for Bluebird habitat studies. Research, being a study of the unknown, requires confirmation of results in order to lend credence to its validity. We hope for enlightening and useful results from these two studies.

The fourth proposal was rejected, partially for lack of funds, but also because it did not encompass a sufficiently complete problem definition. Because of the subsequent inquiry by the submitter, the Research Committee will develop a more nearly complete set of guidelines to be followed by applicants.

*Charles Vaughn, Chairman*

### SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

To carry out the instructions of the Board of Directors that the Long Range Planning Committee and the State Sanctuary Committee jointly develop a plan to achieve optimum use of our sanctuaries, a special committee was appointed. This committee was instructed to develop a plan for the tum Suden Sanctuary by adapting management methods used by Nature Conservancy to operate its sanctuaries. The committee, under the chairmanship of George Kramer, is holding regular meetings. The implementation of the plan will require considerable time. Mr. Kramer is performing his assignment with great enthusiasm.

The brochure for our sanctuaries published in December of 1973 has

been rewritten by Gladys Cole and Paul and Linda Bystrak. There was a delay in getting it to the printer while maps were being prepared. It is now with the printer. Information on use of our sanctuaries with houses will be included as an insert in an envelope in the back of the brochure. By this means, that information can be kept current without having to reprint the brochure.

MOS has given an oil and gas lease to C. E. Beck, after an approval vote by the Board of Directors. President Cheevers has handled all correspondence on this matter. The lease gives C. E. Beck the right to explore for oil and/or gas at Carey Run.

At the request of Mr. Bolling B. Willse of Nicodemus Road, Baltimore County, near Liberty Reservoir, on February 23 Chan and Eleanor Robbins, Sam Droege and I were escorted on a walk to inspect a property owned by Mrs. Barton, Mr. Willse's aunt, in order to determine the desirability of this property for a sanctuary, should Mrs. Barton decide to will a part of it to us. We found the property highly desirable. However, Mrs. Barton, although wanting the land kept as a wildlife sanctuary, is unapproachable by us. We decided to loan Mr. Willse slides showing our sanctuaries for his use in possibly interesting Mrs. Barton, through the Board of Directors of the Baltimore County Humane Society, who use another part of the property and apparently have influence with her. Chan prepared a report on our walk.

Our private wildlife sanctuary registration program continues to grow. I recently ordered the second lot of 500 signs since I took over as chairman. I registered our 508th sanctuary on March 28.

*Barclay E. Tucker, Chairman*

#### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee has chosen the following winners of the four scholarships awarded annually for attendance at National Audubon Summer Workshops.

Ms. Marilyn Mause, a graduate student in wildlife management at Frostburg State College, is winner of the Helen Miller Scholarship. She will be attending the Audubon Ecology Camp in Wisconsin.

Ms. Carol Geidt, who is a social studies teacher at Lake Clifton High School in Baltimore, is winner of the scholarship sponsored by the Amateur Gardeners' Club of Baltimore. She will be attending the Audubon Ecology Camp in the West.

Mr. William Eckert, who is Coordinator of the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks, is winner of the Orville Crowder Memorial Scholarship sponsored by the World Nature Association. He will be attending the Audubon Ecology Camp in Maine.

Mr. John Buppert, a biology teacher at the John Carroll School in

Bel Air, is winner of the MOS Scholarship. He will be attending the Audubon Ecology Camp in Maine.

A new scholarship is in the making. It is to be called the Chandler S. Robbins Scholarship. Tentative plans are to award it to a Maryland student studying in the field of ornithology.

The committee wishes to express its appreciation to the chapters for their efforts in finding candidates for these scholarships. We feel sure these winners will make excellent use of the knowledge they gain by attending the Audubon Ecology Camps they have selected.

*Mildred E. Gebhard, Chairman*

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## ANNUAL REPORTS OF LOCAL CHAPTERS

### ALLEGANY COUNTY

The annual picnic took place at Carey Run Sanctuary in June and was well attended.

Junior Nature Camp was held in June with 51 children attending. The co-directors were: Robert Hiegel and Daniel Folk. Instructors were: Helen Brake, William Devlin, Alverta Dillon, Irene Kuykendahl, Dorothea Malec, Fred Taylor, and John Willetts. Sue Ann Wilson was the staff nurse. All children attending camp were made junior members and were given tickets to the Audubon lecture series.

The club, along with Allegany Community College, co-sponsored four Audubon lectures: Florida Cypress Sanctuary-Fisheating Creek, American Heartland, Song of the Northern Prairie, and Bird Islands of the North Atlantic. All lectures were very well attended.

In December, 21 members turned out for the annual Audubon Christmas Count. Two of our members who had moved from the area returned to help us with the count. Thanks, Ann and Paul Smith!

One field trip to Dolly Sods was led by Ken Hodgdon. Two banding demonstrations at Rocky Gap State Park were given by Dorothea Malec. Jim Paulus led a bird hike along the C and O Canal for members of the Frostburg State College ornithology class in April.

Gas drilling contracts at Carey Run were approved by the local club.

The annual banquet was held at Penn Alps Restaurant in October. Mrs. Ethel Hiegel was in charge of arrangements. The affair was a huge success. It nearly overfilled the dining area. Gary Yoder, bird carver from Garrett County, showed his beautiful carvings and explained his methods and materials.

Dr. Richard Johnson in November presented a beautiful slide program on Birds of Dolly Sods. Michael Chonko in January brought antique American tools of many kinds to help us understand the incredible cleverness of early American artisans. In February, William Failor, superintendent of the C and O Canal, told of the restoration of this interesting Canal, and enticed us to explore and use the facilities so near our area. John Willetts sharpened our ability to identify the birds we are likely to find during the May count with a slide quiz show that proved very enlightening at our April meeting.

1979-1980 has been an active year in Allegany County with many members helping to make it so.

Dorothea Malec, President

#### ANNE ARUNDEL CHAPTER

The Anne Arundel Chapter began its birding year with a field trip to Bombay Hook, Port Mahon and Little Creek in August. The 85 species seen on this trip led by Jim Cheevers gave us an excellent start on the birding year.

In September we enjoyed a potluck supper at the home of Mrs. Hazel Keith. The 37 persons who attended enjoyed a variety of dishes that left everyone satisfied and a number of people exchanging recipes.

During the course of the year we have enjoyed 18 field trips, some of which were to places nearby and others which were as far away as Cape May, N. J. and Chincoteague, Va. At the time of this writing, we still have three trips and a picnic scheduled.

Unusual birds have shown up on two of our trips. On Nov. 17 the trip to Sandy Point, which was led by Hal Wierenga, spotted a first-year black-legged kittiwake. This sighting is only Maryland's second record away from the ocean and is a first for Sandy Point. On April 26 Helen and John Ford led us on a trip to the C & O Canal. After lunch a group of five spotted what they believed was a Le Conte's Sparrow on the Antietam Battlefield.

Our monthly meetings featured a variety of excellent speakers, all of whom whetted our appetites for birding in other parts of the world. Ted and Lola Oberman convinced us that Point Pelee was the place to go in the spring with their talk on "Migration at Point Pelee." Claudia Wilds had us spellbound with her presentation on "Birding in the Antarctic." Don Messersmith spoke on "Birds of India and Nepal", and Tony White, a former president of the Anne Arundel Chapter, told us about "Birding in the Adaks." We also saw an excellent film put out by Colonial Williamsburg on Mark Catesby called "The Colonial Naturalist."

Our final program of the year was our annual wildlife lecture, a special program that we use to raise funds for the MOS Sanctuary Fund and the Helen Miller Scholarship Fund. This year's program featured Dr.

Eugene Morton, Curator of Birds at the National Zoo in Washington, D. C. Dr. Morton discussed "The Adaption of North American Birds Wintering in the Tropics." Over \$300 was raised by the lecture, and the money was divided between the two funds.

The Christmas Count netted a total of 110 species this year, thanks to excellent coverage by the 72 observers. Once again, Helen and John Ford offered the hospitality of their home for the tally.

Thanks are due to the officers and committee chairmen, trip leaders and other members, all of whom cooperated to make this an excellent birding year. We are looking forward to a great year of birding in 1980-81.

*Emily D. Joyce, President*

#### BALTIMORE CHAPTER

As my last official act as president of the Chapter, I would like to recognize the outstanding service and dedication of all of the people who have worked with me. We are particularly proud of our Junior programs, which expose thousands of children each year to some aspect of birdwatching or other nature study. These activities may be the first exposure that some children have to the healthy aspects of nature study and we hope to produce some lifelong interest and maybe future MOS members. One of these programs is our Junior Nature Club, which is experiencing a revival after several years of low activity. Another is the Junior Nature Camp, which continued a tradition of offering a full weekend of nature-oriented activities to a fortunate group of young people. There are other meetings and nature walks that reach thousands of children each year.

There is also a revival of interest in our bird museum and much effort is being spent to replace old mounted birds, and otherwise improve the exhibits.

Our adult programs have been generally successful this year. The Tuesday evening bird identification classes have been excellent and well attended. However, the attendance at some of our social activities and Audubon Films has been declining. This in particular will receive the attention of the new officers.

The Chapter newsletter has been especially informative this year. This is important because it is the only activity that reaches every member.

The Bookstore has offered the members more service and a greater selection of nature books this year than ever.

There are so many activities that need mentioning, Hospitality, Publicity, etc., that I just can't list them all.

Last but not least are the field trips. These are the backbone and

main focus of any birding organization. Ours have been excellent as usual, even though the mild winter didn't produce many rare birds.

In conclusion I want to thank all the workers and leaders and the membership in general for making this year another success.

*John H. Cullom, President*

#### CAROLINE CHAPTER

The 1979-1980 season commenced with a picnic lunch outing at the Pelot Sanctuary on Sunday June 10th. Six members were in attendance along with droves of mosquitos. Spraying the picnic area gave relief during lunch. Inez Glime spotted a Red-bellied Woodpecker nest high up in a dead tree. The young were being fed as we also ate.

The fall meeting started Friday September 21st with our own Steve Westre. His cabin building activities in the northern Wisconsin lake country was the topic. Slides kept us abreast of his progress. Our October meeting was hosted by Doug and Nancy Pyle. They recounted their trip across the Atlantic Ocean in their 39-foot sail boat.

Meeting programs continued throughout the season with Ed Unger talking about his trip to the Galapagos Islands, Marianna Nuttle talking on her Arizona birding trip with MOS member Dick Kleen, an astronomy session at the high school planetarium, Dr. Shepard Krech reporting on the Maryland Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, and ending with Marvin Hewitt alerting us to the magnificent world of the wood warblers.

The Christmas bird count totaled 92 species from 27 observers. The May 1980 bird count totaled 128 species from 37 observers. Total paid membership for the season was 42.

Tom Robbins made two large bird list check off boards for members at each meeting to "X" their sightings for the month. The species count will be summarized for the season at the September 1980 meeting.

Again a special thanks for the cooperation and help given to the club by Vice-President Ed Unger, Secretary Marvin Hewitt, Treasurer Roberta Fletcher, Sanctuary Chairman Jerry Fletcher, Program Chairman Tom Robbins, and all club members. Ms. Butenschoen was again kind enough to remind all members by telephone of the coming activities each month.

*Oliver L. Smith, President*

#### CARROLL COUNTY CHAPTER

Our main effort this year and for several prior years has been to establish a chapter in Carroll County. Happily this has been accomplished and we can now turn our attention to birding, etc. Even though our group is very small and we had only a few events this year, our membership shows signs of expanding and our slide shows, guests, discuss-

sions and Saturday morning walks at Piney Run have been delightful.

Our main effort recently has been in planning. Continuing discussions include canoeing the Monacacy, ways of making ourselves available to young people, and assisting with the Nature Center at Piney Run. And last but not least we hope to explore some new walks together and share our old favorites in this beautiful county.

*Geraldine Newton, President*

#### FREDERICK COUNTY CHAPTER

The 1979-80 year was a most interesting and varied year, offering activities that have brought our members closer together. Our bird outings were mostly in Frederick County because of the gasoline crisis. However, the monthly meetings offered the members an opportunity to follow many aspects of birdlife beyond our county's boundaries. Our membership increased to 70. A majority of the newcomers are county residents, and the chapter now covers birding over a wider territory than ever before.

Highlight of the year was the honoring of our Gus Selckmann, an excellent naturalist, a capable wildlife artist, and a gifted photographer. State President James Cheevers and Second Vice President Dr. Ben Poscover, came to Frederick on March 6, 1980 to make the award and thank him for his lifelong contributions to the bird watchers organization. Gus was chairman and illustrator for an impressive brochure, published by the state organization, to let people know about MOS. And it was none other than Gus who designed the MOS logo, a swan encircled by the Society's name. All that he has given over the years to the local chapter of MOS as well as the state society, he contributed graciously and unselfishly of his time and talents.

Seven planned field trips were set for the 79-80 season, and these were expanded into many informal ones. September 1979 found many making individual and group visits to Washington Monument State Park for "hawk watching." Members from Frederick County joined the Washington County membership and others in keeping a vigil for the migrating birds from our own "Hawk mountain" site. Other sites visited during the year included Lily Pons, Lake Linganore, Tresselts Fish Hatchery, Penn Mar State Park, and Gude's Nursery in Montgomery County.

Special mention is needed for our Christmas count, which was guided and hosted by Dr. John and Ruth Richards from Emmitsburg. Seventy-eight species were counted by the 35 participants, who had an eventful day in the field. The Richards' hosted the evening tally at their home, where everyone partook of their fine food and hospitality. Four members joined the Washington County group for their Christmas count and enjoyed the new surroundings and bird sightings offered.

Our lecture year opened in September with Dr. Jeff Swinebroad, who helped us in understanding the variations in bird songs with the help of

tapes and sonograms. Mr. David Holmes, of Howard County MOS, in October helped us recognize the differences between the many sparrows with his excellent color slides. Don Widman was guest speaker in November, and he employed a unique technique of three screens. Don explained the avifauna and mammals of Africa. Our first meeting of 1980 was Members' Night. Mike Welch shared his slides taken in Idaho and New Mexico. Of note, because not seen around Frederick, were the Bohemian Waxwing and Steller's Jay. Cecily Claire showed pictures of a Red-shouldered Hawk family in Ijamsville. We could see the progression from egg to full-grown hawk and marvelled that her brother, Phil, did not come away with more scratches in taking these slides. Member Bill Shirey shared his recent trip to the Everglades in Florida by showing slides not only of Anhinga and other birds, but the anoles, cottonmouths, and other creatures which inhabit the southern swamps. In February, Bob Patterson, representing the North American Bluebird Society, brought slides and had several different types of bluebird houses on display. Mr. Patterson reviewed the food and habitat needs of bluebirds for us. The March meeting was "Gus Selckmann night" as previously mentioned. The program following the presentation was James De Stefano from the Department of Natural Resources in Garrett County. He informed us of the history of Wildlife Management and how it has changed through the years. Present techniques involve habitat management together with law enforcement of season bag limits. Member Elise Thrasher substituted for our planned lecture for April by showing slides of her recent trip to the Galapagos Islands. Everyone is proud of Elise's talents as a naturalist and photographer and enjoyed the view of these faraway islands. The last meeting of the year will be the May meeting, and the subject is particularly appropriate. It's Purple Martins, those swift-soaring members of the swallow family who gobble prodigious numbers of mosquitoes. The speaker will be Paul Jung.

Other events included a dinner meeting in December where Chandler S. Robbins addressed the group on the use of the Sonograph, a device used for recording bird songs which can then be studied from the resultant sonogram. Birding from the Hodge's window was enjoyed one morning in February.

Our library collection, open to the public at the Hood College Library, continues to grow, and everyone interested in birds is encouraged to use it. In closing, the chapter's activities and birding have been good; attendance and membership continue to grow, and with this encouraging year 1979-80 behind, we are looking forward to an even better next year.

*Norm Chamberlin, President*

#### HARFORD COUNTY CHAPTER

The Harford County Chapter started the season with a well-attended picnic at the home of Lucille Wilson, which is located on the Bush River. Some local birds were observed with a sprinkling of migrating Broad-winged Hawks, which made the outing even more enjoyable.

Our dinner meetings were held on the first Friday of November, January, March, and May, with 50 to 80 persons attending. Each meeting featured audio-visual programs by excellent speakers. Jan Walker, of the Baltimore Environmental Center, presented a very informative picture of the Maryland Oiled Bird Rescue Program. William Clark, of the Raptor Information Center, National Wildlife Federation, gave a graphic update on our National Bird, the Bald Eagle and its current situation in the Chesapeake Bay region. Our members were thrilled by the excellent film, "Shadow of the Falcon," which depicted the plight of that noble bird and what is being done to save it. Dr. F. Prescott "Scott" Ward was on hand to explain the local efforts here in Maryland, including a detailed report on Scarlett, the celebrity peregrine at the USF&G Building in Baltimore. Barbara Bilsborough, our recording secretary and master bander, brought some of her nets and other banding equipment to our May meeting and explained in detail how and why birds are caught and banded. Her slide collection aided members in understanding the work and dedication involved in the art of bird banding.

Students from kindergarten to high school visited the tum Suden Sanctuary as volunteers showed the youngsters bird banding and field identification with the aid of mounted specimens as well as wild birds. Many members visited the sanctuary on cold winter days to enjoy the birds at the various feeders which were kept full by our Sanctuary Committee who performed "above and beyond. . ."

The low point in our year was the fact that the house at tum Suden Sanctuary was broken into twice in early winter and many of the mounted specimens were stolen. Our executive board felt compelled to take preventive measures and opted to purchase an alarm system and new locks for the house. Since the system has been installed, no more vandalism has occurred.

Various field trips were enjoyed as a group; however, many members were out on their own at favored spots, trying to renew old acquaintances with familiar birds and looking for that "life lister." Some interesting birds observed in our area were Bald and Golden Eagles, a Loggerhead Shrike, Horned and Eared Grebes, a black Downy Woodpecker and a White-fronted Goose. A white Blue Jay was reported, but never confirmed. A very light (almost white) White-throated Sparrow was also seen.

Some of our members took part in the Christmas and May counts and attended the State Convention.

*Ellis C. Porter, President*

#### HOWARD COUNTY CHAPTER

1979-1980 was a banner year, with several firsts for the county and the chapter. Our exposure to nonbirders in the county came in the form of a feature article in the Howard Living section of the *Sunday Sun*, 8/26/79. A well-written article, including "interviews" with several members on a field trip, was accompanied by color photographs of birders

in action. Eleven nesting birds of Howard County were shown in both color and black and white photos. According to our lists for 1979, 199 species were seen and 2 others found dead, totaling 201.

Our chapter co-sponsored a bus trip with the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks to Bombay Hook and Little Creek for waterfowl and shorebirds. The trip was successful in both participation and bird species. We plan to co-sponsor future bus trips. Our first bird seed sale was held in the fall of 1979. We offered sunflower and thistle seed to members and non-members. The chapter's bookstore added to the coffers. We sold in excess of 2 tons of seed and expect to sell seed each November and January.

A booklet entitled *Attracting Birds in the Maryland Piedmont* was published and offered for sale in local bookstores, garden shops, and our bookstore. Many members contributed to the collection of data pertaining to feeding, planting materials, nesting boxes, and pest problems. The editor for this major project was Joanne K. Solem.

The chapter is in its second year of a three-year wildflower survey to be completed in the spring of 1981. Many areas in the county are being closely observed for usual, unusual and rare wildflowers each spring. All work is being done by amateur naturalists. The results will be published along with a wildflower checklist for the county.

Our collection of mounted birds continues to increase with over 40 skins ranging in size from a hummingbird to a pheasant. Other species include a Dunlin, American Woodcock, Barn Owl, American Kestrel, American Goldfinch and a Black-throated Blue Warbler. These skins are used during educational talks to scouts, school children, garden clubs, and interested groups. Many of our members gave talks to over 514 people during this past year. In June of 1979 Howard County MOS was represented at the Annual Recreation Expo sponsored by the Howard Co. Dept. of Recreation & Parks. This event helps to inform the public of leisure time activities in the county. Mounted bird specimens and nests were on display.

The Howard County MOS was represented on the building committee for the new library building to advise on the selection of native plantings to encourage birds and wildlife. A bluebird house, bird feeder, and birdbath will be erected on the grounds.

I want to express my deepest appreciation and gratitude to our entire membership for contributing so generously to our many projects through your time, money and effort.

Eileen S. McCormack Clegg, President

#### KENT COUNTY CHAPTER

Activities of the Kent County Chapter were many and varied, designed to provide meetings of interest to all members. The year began with a

covered dish supper at Remington Farms and a program by Hugh Galbreath. Other meetings included a members' "Show and Tell" session, a dinner meeting at which Vernon Stotts of the Maryland Wildlife Administration presented a program on Canadian Breeding Grounds of Waterfowl, and a dinner meeting at which Donald Heintzelman showed a motion picture entitled "Hawks, Owls, and Wildlife." A field trip was scheduled to Blackwater Refuge on a Wednesday in October, and there were five morning Coffee Watches at the homes of members. The Chapter participated in the annual Christmas Bird Count and in the Statewide Bird Count in May. [In the absence of a President's Report this summary was abstracted from the Chapter's mimeographed program of activities.--Ed.]

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAPTER

Our members enjoyed another year of fine programs and field trips during 1979-80. Our Program Chairman, Kathy Klimkiewicz, again provided us with an outstanding array of lecturers. We began in September with Don Messersmith regaling us with his experience "Birding in the Galapagos and Ecuador"; in October, Dan Keeney took us not quite so far from home when he discussed "Birds of the Caribbean"; in November, Margaret and Morrill Donnald and Ed Smith thrilled us with their account of "Bird Banding in Panama"; in December, our program chairman herself took us south for "Adventures in Florida--Lake Okeechobee to the Dry Tortugas"; in February, we were not only entertained but also learned a great deal when James Carpenter spoke to us on "The Role of the Veterinarian in the Endangered Species Program"; in March, Tom Custer instructed us on "Heronries of the Atlantic Coast"; and in April, Ted and Lola Oberman shared breathtaking slides and experiences from a "Spring Migration at Point Pelee." At this writing we are looking forward to our final talk in May by David Farr on "Mushrooms - Feast or Famine." Attendance averaged approximately 80 people.

Our January Social, organized by Ann Mitchell, was one of the finest we have had, attended by 125 people. This year we decided not to hire a caterer but to provide the food ourselves, resulting in what was generally agreed to be a vast improvement in the quality and variety of the fares.

There was good attendance on this year's Chapter field trips, the program for which was for the fourth consecutive year organized by Minette McCullough and Lola Oberman. There was something in the schedule for everyone, as our trips went from the C and O Canal and the National Zoo to the mountains in the west and the coast in the east. We greatly appreciate the efforts of the field trip leaders in making this aspect of the Chapter program such a success.

A new and popular feature this year was a complete calendar of events for the year, which included much other pertinent information as well. This most useful item was the creation of our Vice President, Lola Oberman, and was embellished with a lovely cover designed by Pat Moore.

Bill Oberman once again organized our Christmas Count, on which 118

participants recorded 100 bird species. Our post-Count tally-rally was delightfully hosted by Vince and Kay Jones. Our May Count was organized by our Secretary, Rich Bray.

An activity of which the Chapter can be most proud is the bird-banding program at Adventure, overseen by Margaret Donnald, who supervises a staff of 30 to 40 volunteers. In the spring and fall of 1979, over 4,790 birds were banded, including 171 returns. Some birds first banded in the fall of 1972 are still returning, including a Downy Woodpecker and a Cardinal. In the spring of 1980 a Northern Parula Warbler returned for the fourth year in a row; this bird was already an after-second-year bird when first banded. In addition to the scientific work, a great educational effort is carried on as well, with some 25 banding demonstrations presented during the past year to a wide variety of groups, including school and college students and scouts. Two items of particularly good news for Adventure this year are the elimination from the Montgomery County master plan of a road which would have gone through part of the Adventure Tract, and the conversion of Alice Hostetler's house to a nature center.

Both birders and birds owe a continuing debt of gratitude to Bob and Ellen Caswell for their efforts for MOS Sanctuaries. Profits from their birdseed sales this year provided \$115 for the Sanctuary Fund.

Special thanks are due Bob Hahn, who for yet another year has served as our Newsletter Editor, providing us with monthly documents that have been not only informative but highly entertaining as well. And the copies of our oft-consulted Membership Directory did not arise *de novo* either, but resulted from the dedicated efforts of Helen Meleney, who also provided the labels for our monthly Newsletter. Our ceaselessly re-elected Treasurer, Ed McKnight, again deserves great thanks from us all for keeping all our finances superbly organized and meticulously recorded for yet another year. Rich Bray is to be thanked for providing detailed accounts of Chapter meetings and Council deliberations in his capacity as our Secretary. Finally, thanks are due to the Chapter Council members who provided much help and advice throughout the year.

The Chapter is especially pleased that one of its junior members, Manuel Lerdau, won an Outstanding Achievement Award in Ornithology for his expertise in ornithology and his dedication as a volunteer at Adventure.

Frank Witebsky, President

#### PATUXENT CHAPTER

The chapter has had another successful year of well attended lectures. Topic subjects ranged from the tundra of Alaska to the tropical mountains of Peru. Rounding out the schedule were talks on the local spring wildflowers, attracting wildlife with plantings, and a multi-media program on warbler songs. A column in the local Laurel paper written by Eleanor Robbins continues to attract a diverse audience to our meetings.

Collecting recyclable materials has been an exciting new project for our club. Through the efforts of the tireless Paul Leifer and his cavernous van, we have collected about 12,000 pounds of recyclables and received over \$200.00 in cash. We urge other chapters to start similar projects.

*Sam Droege, President*

#### TALBOT COUNTY CHAPTER

Our regular meetings were held on the third Wednesday night of each month in the Maryland Room at Loyola Savings and Loan Association, September through April. The programs were of a consistently high caliber: Bob Sharp's pictures of his trek on Everest, Don Messersmith's program on birding in the Indian Ocean, Harold Morrin's "Habitats of North America," two by Bob Trever on his birding trip to Mexico, beautiful bird pictures by Mike Hemming, and a fun evening with clever bird games and contests planned and led by Kathy Trever.

In the fall of '79, we had field trips to Chincoteague, Cape May, and Hawk Mountain. Our series of Sunday morning breakfast walks began on September 9th and continued through October. Each bird walk was followed by breakfast at the home of a member.

Our Christmas count took place on December 23rd under the leadership of Jan Reese, with 28 workers in the field. The day closed with a supper at St. Michaels High School. Forty-one people attended to enjoy the food and listen to the summary of the day's count, which totalled 100 species.

In February, we had a field trip to Irish Grove and Ocean City, and in March a trip to Bombay Hook. The Sunday morning walks began this spring on April 13th and will continue through May 18th. Some of these conclude with breakfast at the home of a member; two are picnic breakfasts hosted by members (one at the Izaak Walton League Sanctuary near Trappe, and the other at our own Mill Creek Sanctuary). We are planning a trip to Brigantine in May, to be led by Dick Kleen, and another to Carey Run in June, with Lester Coble as leader.

The four Audubon Wildlife films were well attended. The new sound system, which we purchased early in the year, added greatly to the enjoyment of these programs. Erica Woodman served as chairman.

*Lucile C. Spain, President*

#### WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAPTER

Membership remained stable during the 1979-1980 season. Because of school regulations that thermostats be lowered to 55° in the evenings, it became necessary to secure another location for our meetings. We now meet in the Maryland Room of the Loyola Federal building, 32 N. Potomac St., in Hagerstown. The meetings are scheduled on the fourth Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., September through May except in December. In June, July and August we meet outdoors. By way of the local newspaper and our monthly

Newsletter we welcome anyone interested to attend the meetings.

The 1979 Christmas Count report dinner was made much more enjoyable this year because of the generosity of Cam and Norma Lewis who hosted the counters at dinner in their home. A five dollar dinner donation from each counter substantially boosted our nearly depleted treasury. Eighty-five species were reported by the 48 participants in ten parties. The report dinner was a wonderful climax to a year of birding pleasure.

Eleven members were called upon during the year to speak to a wide variety of audiences on many phases of birding and related topics.

At least two field trips were scheduled each month with an average attendance of fifteen. Last fall, special emphasis was given to hawk migration at Washington's Monument near Boonsboro, with excellent results. Enthusiasm continues to run high for interest in bluebirds. The results are most encouraging.

Again this year one of our members was chosen to receive the Helen Miller Scholarship award to attend a 1979-1980 Audubon Camp.

We were well represented at the Lister's trip in October.

The annual "Boonsboro Days" weekend gave us an opportunity to demonstrate to the public the many aspects of birdwatching and its values.

Our adopted swan, blue band A472, has been sighted three times during the past year including a sighting in Queen Anne's County, Maryland.

In January, five members were recruited to be on the alert for sightings of Bald Eagles in our area, a request of the Wildlife Administration.

A very practical series of programs was presented this past season. They were informative, inspirational and educational. We became more knowledgeable of hawks, ducks, bluebirds, martins and wildflowers. In March, a longstanding goal was reached with the adoption of new bylaws.

Jim Cheevers, MOS state president, visited us in April and conducted the installation of the new officers for the coming year. A few days later, Jim and some friends were touring the Antietam Battlefield where they reported a Le Conte's Sparrow, a rarity. The grapevine became very active and the response was tremendous.

We are looking forward to our May Count on the 3rd; it promises a lot of goodies.

As I bow out as chapter president, I want to take this opportunity to thank those people in the local and State organization who supported me wholeheartedly with encouragement and cooperation. I treasure the experience of being a member of the MOS State Board of Directors.

*Alberta J. Thurmond, President*

## WICOMICO CHAPTER

The past year, though not spectacular, gave the members many satisfactions. Our meetings, held at Asbury Methodist Church, are always well attended, with 40 or more of the 59 members present. In a little switch this year, instead of having a formal annual dinner, the members voted to have a potluck dinner, which was extremely well attended, even though we had to change to Faith Lutheran Church for that particular event.

The Club voted to buy a telescope for the field trips, enhancing the potential of better identifying distant birds. Attendance at the field trips is usually considerably smaller than at the meetings, averaging from 10 to 15 members, who go out in every kind of weather. Our areas of birding extend into three counties (four with Blackwater Refuge), usually Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester. This gives us almost every type of environment except mountains, and the birds are diverse. We also had a session in the Vaughn's backyard where more examples of bird-band- ing were given.

Our Sanctuary Chairman, Randy Stadler, has done considerable work with others at Irish Grove, and the Chapter bought a new electrical panel box at a cost of \$472, as well as contributing a second-hand water pump and other materials. Randy also helped with the construction of the new outhouse, and will continue to get the internal plumbing fixed.

We had several minor disasters with our monthly programs, including projectors that don't work and speakers that don't turn up, but we had some outstanding material presented too. An unusually fascinating evening was the presentation of Dr. R. Peter Kernaghan, Professor of biology at Salisbury State College, who went into great detail of the how and where of bird migration. We also had a new member, Ralph Casagrande, show us some spectacular nature slides. He explained that he had worked with more than birds, but now he will perhaps do a little more specializing in avian life.

Lee Meinersmann, President

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Editor: Chandler S. Robbins, 7900 Brooklyn Bridge Road  
Laurel, Maryland 20810 (725-1176)

Asst. Editor: Robert F. Ringler, 3501 Melody L., Baltimore 21207

Production: Lettie Cullom

Mailing: Barbara Larrabee and committee